MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Relations With U.S. -- Jerusalem television reported that Cabinet ministers said they would have objected to Prime Minister Menahem Begin's remarks during his 20 December meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis if Begin had submitted them for Cabinet approval beforehand. Ministers objected to the style of Begin's remarks, although most of them identify with the contents, the report said. According to Jerusalem radio, a senior U.S. Embassy source denied that the issues of the Sinai multinational force and observers and the withdrawal from the Sinai were raised during the Begin-Lewis meeting.

Jerusalem radio noted that the Labor Party issued a statement calling for every effort to be made to rehabilitate Israel's friendship with the United States but rejecting U.S. intentions to punish Israel for its political moves. The radio also reported that the Alignment faction will support the Shinuy-sponsored motion of no-confidence in the government that will be submitted for discussion in the Knesset on 23 December.

According to Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told EEC ambassadors that he hopes the current disagreement between Israel and the United States will quickly pass. HA'ARETZ likewise reported that in the wake of the Begin-Lewis meeting, Israel has signaled to the U.S. administration its desire to contain the dispute and return to the path of dialogue and understanding. Commenting on the U.S. "sanctions" against Israel over its Golan Heights Law, HA'ARETZ opined that the "main sting" of Washington's punitive measures was directed against Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, thus indicating U.S. dissatisfaction with Sharon and apprehension over possible Israeli military moves in the north, including an attack on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon.

Golan Heights -- Jerusalem radio reported that the Golan Heights will henceforth be incorporated in the Interior Ministry's northern district, coming under commissioner Yisra'el Koenig. According to other radio reports, five Druze were detained in the area, which is to come under the jurisdiction of Israeli courts.

Egypt

Comment on U.S.-Israeli Relations -- A Cairo radio commentary said Israel's cancellation of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement will frustrate any possible efforts by the European states to accelerate the Middle East peace process, eliminate any possibility of a peaceful initiative by moderate Arab states and increase the chances of reaction by extremist Arab forces. According to the commentary, the Israeli action also makes it clear that the United States should make the question of Middle East peace, rather than the question of security, its top priority in the region; casts doubt on the ability of the U.S. administration to work for peace in the area; and confirms the fear of new Israeli provocations endangering peace in the area.

Khalil Mediation Offer -- In an interview with the Israeli newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, National Democratic Party chief Mustafa Khalil said Egypt would take steps to facilitate negotiations between Israel and Syria if Israel rescinded its new Golan Heights Law. He said Egypt has access to channels through which it could act, and that it would use "another mediating factor, " such as the United States, Morocco, Saudi Arabia or a European country that has good relations with Syria.

Syria

Damascus radio said Prime Minister Begin's announcement canceling the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement exposes the nature of Israel's practices even toward those committed to safeguarding Israel's security. Begin's "arrogance and haughtiness" have reached the point of defying the whole world, the radio asserted.

Saudi Arabia

Syrian President Arrives -- According to SPA, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Riyadh on the first leg of a tour of Gulf region states. SPA later said he and his delegation began talks with King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and other Saudi officials.

Comment on U.S.-Israeli Relations -- SPA reported that in a commentary on recent developments in U.S.-Israeli relations, 'UKAZ said the U.S. administration has been unrealistic to imagine it can protect its interests in the region by depending on "an entity based on terrorism." Urging the United States to call for sanctions against Israel at the 5 January UN Security Council meeting and to be the first country to impose them, 'UKAZ said perhaps the United States now realizes that Israel's "arrogance" is no longer confined to the Arab region but has now insulted even U.S. dignity.

Gulf Affairs

According to WAKH, Iranian Charge d'Affaires Hasan Shushtarizadeh left Bahrain after being declared persona non grata. Bahrain had earlier asked Iran to recall the diplomat because of his alleged involvement in a sabotage plot against Bahrain. Citing a senior Bahraini security official, WAKH later reported that security forces had discovered a third arms cache belonging to the sabotage group.

During an interview, reported by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi warned the Persian Gulf region countries against supporting Iraq, asserting that Iran has their ports and roads under careful observation and is aware of their "treasonous actions." He said Iraq, the United States and Saudi Arabia cannot protect their independence, and dismissed the "so-called councils" as nothing but a "balloon." Musavi asserted that Iran has no designs on the independence or integrity of the Gulf countries and favors peace and stability in the Persian Gulf region, but not at the price of U.S. domination. He said allegations of Iranian interference in the internal affairs of the region's nations are U.S. propaganda, but added that those nations siding with the United States must expect a "hostile reaction" from Iran.

Libya

Article Denounces U.S. -- Tripoli's Voice of Arab homeland radio broadcast an article published in Az-Zahf al-Akdhar denouncing the "war" being waged against Libya, including the economic war imposed by U.S. imperialism and by the "reactionary group" that helps the United States by flooding the world market with oil and cutting oil prices. It also accused the United States of using propaganda to create the pretext for staging armed action. The article asserted that the war is aimed at making Libya a "subservient lackey" like the other "agent regimes" in the Arab world, but declared that the Libyan people would rather die than live as slaves of the United States.

Kuwaiti-Libyan Joint Communique -- JANA carried the text of a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the 19-21 December visit to Libya by Kuwaiti Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, in which the two countries denounced Israel's Golan Heights Law as a manifestation of continuing U.S. support for the "Zionist enemy." In a discussion of recent U.S. moves against Libya, Kuwait reaffirmed its solidarity with Libya, the communique stated. The two sides also agreed to further expand cooperation in the economic, oil and investment fields, among others.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 245 *22 December 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting Postponed [Abu Dhabi] A 1
Further Palestinian Reaction to Golan Annexation A 1
Interview With Fatah's Khalaf [Monte Carlo] A 1
PLO Spokesman Comments [VOP] A 2
PLO Committee Statement [VOP] A 2
DFLP Official's Remarks [SANA] A 3
DFLP Spokesman's Denunciation [SANA] A 3
'Arafat Makes Inspection Tour of Southern Lebanon [VOP] A 4
Spokesman Denies Attempt Against 'Arafat [VOP] A 4
VOP Mourns Death of PLO Central Council Member A 4
Briefs: Islamic Loan to Morocco A 4

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Interior Ministers To Review Security C 1

BAHRAIN

Iranian Charge Declared Persona Non Grata C 1
Third Arms Cache Located C 1
Saudi Interior Minister Pays Official Visit C 1
Arrival 19 Dec C 1
Delivers Message to Amir C 2
Signs Security Agreement C 2
Speaks on Regional Issues C 2
Departure 20 Dec C 6

SAUDI ARABIA

Cabinet Discusses Israeli Annexation of Golan C 6
Syrian President Al-Asad Arrives for Visit C 6

EGYPT

Ambassador Delivers Mubarak Message to Reagan D 1
Envoy Says Mitterrand Israel Visit Postponed D 1
Commentaries on Golan Annexation, Aftermath D 1
Strategic Agreement Abrogation D 1
Newspapers on Golan D 2
U.S. Praised D 3
Reasons for Rejection D 3
U.S.-Israeli Strain Noted D 3
U.S. Measures Welcomed D 4
Opposition Party NPUG Issues Statement [Damascus AL-BA'TH 6 Dec] D 5

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communiques E 1
Communique 557 E 1
Communique 558 E 1
Communique 559 E 2
Communique 560 E 3
Red Cross Asked To Help Evacuate Dead Iranians E 4

JORDAN

Reaction to Israeli-U.S. Treaty Cancellation F 1
JORDAN TIMES 20 Dec Editorial F 1
Radio Commentary F 1
AR-RA'Y Comments F 2
JORDAN TIMES 22 Dec Editorial F 3
NCC Backs Government Statement on Golan F 3
Wife of Abu 'Ayn Protests to U.S. Over Extradition F 4
[JORDAN TIMES 21 Dec]
King Husayn Receives ILO Director General F 4

LEBANON

Al-Wazzan Speaks on UNIFIL, Army, Arab Committee G 1
Beirut Radio Notes UNIFIL Mandate Extension G 1

SYRIA

Postponement of Foreign Ministers Meeting Asked H 1
AL-Asad To Begin Tour of Arab Region 22 Dec H 1
ATH-THAWRAH Commentary H 1
Further Reaction to Israeli Decision on Golan H 1
Radio Denunciation H 1
Arabs Urged To Face Challenge H 2
Information Minister Comments [Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 21 Dec] H 3
Cables From Mali, Mauritania H 4
Message From UAE President H 4
Waldheim Informed H 4
Deputy Premier Receives U.S. Ambassador H 5
Armed Forces Conclude Annual Military Training H 5
Briefs: Appointment of Governors H 5

ISRAEL

Alignment To Joint Motion of Nonconfidence I 1
Cabinet Ministers Discuss Possible Coalition [HA'ARETZ 21 Dec] I 1
POST Finds Cabinet Support for Begin Decision [21 Dec] I 2
Speculation on U.S. Support of UN Resolution I 3
Minister Moda'i Interview on Relations With U.S. I 4
Rabin on U.S. Intentions Behind Memorandum Move I 5
U.S. Embassy Source Comments on Relations I 5
Labor Party Announcement on U.S. Relations I 5
Foreign Ministry Moves to Cool Dispute with U.S. I 6
[HA'ARETZ 21 Dec]
Shamir Hopes 'Disagreement' Passes Quickly I 6
HA'ARETZ on Message Behind U.S. Sanctions [21 Dec] I 6
Egypt's Khalil on Golan, Talks With Syria I 9
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 21 Dec]
Sources Say Strategic Accord Not Canceled I 10
Golan Druze Village Strike Ends 20 Dec I 11
Interior Ministry Issues Regulations on Golan I 11
Courts Set Up I 11
Identification Cards Required I 12

Tourism Minister Sharir Tours Golan Heights I 12
Golan Druze Allowed To Meet Relatives I 12
Golan Residents Detained; Religious Boycott I 12
West Bank Settlements Request Israeli Law I 13
Sharon Promises To Reopen Bi'r Zayt University I 13
West Bank Villagers Warned Against Slogans I 13
Military Censors Warns East Jerusalem Paper I 13
Energy Minister on Nuclear Plants, Other Issues I 14
Begin: Sinai Exit Depends on MFO Establishment I 15
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 21 Dec]
POST Reports Renewal of UNIFIL Mandate [20 Dec] I 16
Talks With EEC Announced for January I 17
Doubling of Trade With France Sought I 17
France Agrees To Nuclear Research Cooperation [DAVAR 18 Dec] I 17
Sources Doubt Reports on Jews in Poland I 18
Bulgarian Delegation Arrives for 8-Day Visit I 18
Zaire President Equivocates on Relations I 18
Switzerland To Buy Israeli Tank Engines, Guns I 18

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Paper Urges Vigilance Against 'Challenges' Q 1
Kuwaiti Prime Minister Arrives in Tripoli Q 2
Jallud Welcomes Visit Q 3
Talks Begin 19 Dec Q 3
Jallud Hosts Banquet Q 3
Joint Communique Issued Q 4
Kuwaiti Delegation Departs Q 5
Foreign Teachers in Libya Reject Reagan Claims Q 6
Tripoli Reports on Delegation Talks in Benin Q 6

SUDAN

Foreign Minister on Relations With U.S., Chad Q 7
Yugoslav Official Arrives for Talks 21 Dec Q 7

TUNISIA

Tunisian-Spanish Communique on Leaders' Talks Q 7
Calvo-Sotelo Summarizes Visit Q 8

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

FAN Denounces Goukouni Attitude Toward OAU Force [AFP] S 1

GABON

Declaration by Heads of State at UDEAC Meeting S 1
Support Statement for Angola S 2
OAU's Kodjo Comments [AFP] S 3
Bongo Comments on 'Lies' Concerning Unrest [AFP] S 3
Minister Discloses Oil Production Figures [AFP] S 4

WEST AFRICA

NIGERIA

President Shagari 16 Dec Budget Address T 1
Kano State Police Warn Political Parties T 9
PRP Issues Communique After Kano Convention T 9
Papers on Cameroon Border Issue, Press Freedom T 9

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Communique on Clashes With RSA, Use of Gas U 1
ANGOP Cites ANC Official on Military Operations U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel, Mugabe Address 20 Dec Maputo Rally U 2
Visit Beira Port U 4

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Comments on Bomb Blast at ZANU-PF Offices U 4
Newspaper Report [MAIL 20 Dec] U 5
Briefs: Paramilitary Training U 5

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING POSTPONED

GF211630 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tunis -- QNA, citing Arab League sources in Tunis, reports that the Arab League emergency meeting was postponed for the third time today until after 5 January 1982 at the request of the Syrian Government. QNA says observers in Tunis believe the Arabs agreed on the postponement until after 5 January when the situation will have become clearer, after the UN Security Council followup debate on the extent of Israeli implementation of its resolutions on rescinding the annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights.

FURTHER PALESTINIAN REACTION TO GOLAN ANNEXATION

Interview With Fatah's Khaïaf

JN181855 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Monte Carlo Radio correspondent Nabil Darwish interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf on "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Can you sum up the Palestinian position on the Israeli decision to annex the occupied Syrian Golan Heights?

[Answer] Actually, we were not suprised because we are accustomed to such Israeli decisions. On many occasions, parts of Palestine and the Arab territories have been annexed to the so-called Israel. We all recall how Jerusalem was annexed to Israel in accordance with the Israeli decision. Therefore, our position not only rejects this decision -- the annexing of the Golan Heights -- but all the Israeli decisions which pertain to the occupied territories. Also, our position is firm. There is not a single law in the world that gives Israel the right to annex any land. This position represents a collective Palestinian stand, and everyone whose land is occupied cannot but reject this arbitrary decision.

[Question] What is the Arab reaction to such decisions?

[Answer] So far there is no Arab reaction. There is only (?shouting). Had there been any practical Arab reaction when Israel annexed Jerusalem and also had there been a practical Arab reaction to the United States and all those allied with Israel, Israel would have thought a thousand times before it annexed the Golan Heights.

[Question] How will the Palestinian rejection be manifested?

[Answer] The only option is to fight. Only fighting can regain Arab rights. Without fighting, Israel will never be [word indistinct]. All the Arab fronts, including the Jordanian and Syrian fronts, should be opened for Fedayeen action.

[Question] But do you believe that the Syrian front will be opened for Fedayeen action after this Israeli decision?

[Answer] In my opinion, the only option before the Syrian leadership is this decision because only this decision can restore confidence to the Arab nation.

[Question] Some Arab circles say that the direct repercussions of this Israeli decision will impact on southern Lebanon and that southern Lebanon may be affected by similar decisions in the future. What is your opinion?

[Answer] I do not exclude any possible similar Israeli action [word indistinct].

When Israel defies a country like Syria, knowing that Syria signed a friendship and alliance treaty with the Soviet Union but still taking such steps, it means that the Israeli arrogance has reached its apex. Southern Lebanon has been open to Israel for a long time. All the Israeli aircraft and weaponry supplied by the United States was used in southern Lebanon. What remains is a simple decision by Israel to annex southern Lebanon and Lebanon as well. I once said that Israel might even claim Mecca and Algeria and Morocco. This would occur if the Arabs remain silent over the annexation of the Golan Heights.

[Question] How would the Palestinian leadership react?

[Answer] The only option is to fight. Fighting alone because Israel, following the conclusion of the strategic alliance with the United States, no longer respects UN and Arab resolutions. Therefore, Israel can be confronted only through fighting.

[Question] Some people say that Israel's decision to annex the Golan was an Israeli understanding of the outcome of the Fes conference, that is to say, the lack of Arab unanimity on Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's plan. Do you agree?

[Answer] I believe the postponement of the Fes conference was a strategic mistake. [words indistinct] because when Israel finds a divided Arab solidarity, will and unity, it embarks on such decisions.

PLO Spokesman Comments

JN181623 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman, said today that the measures the Zionist entity has been taking in Jerusalem, the Golan and in particular in south Lebanon prove that it is necessary to get rid of the illusion that there is a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and that there can be coexistence with the Zionist entity. He added that Israel has made its decision to annex the Golan in the aftermath of signing the strategic alliance with Washington.

He concluded that the Palestinian revolution, which stands by Syria, urges the Arab nation to fortify its steadfastness, confrontation and solidarity to be able to confront the Zionist enemy and the forces behind its expansion and aggression.

PLO Committee Statement

JN191851 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] In Beirut today, the PLO's Higher Political Committee issued a statement in which it denounced the Zionist enemy's aggressive and expansionist nature, as manifested by its annexation of the Golan Heights and proved as this alien entity grew with the gradual usurpation of the greater part of Palestinian and Arab soil by resorting to war.

The statement affirmed that this Israeli step comes within the framework of the U.S. imperialist escalation against the world's freedom-loving and progressive forces, adding that this aggressive escalation was manifested in attempts to wreck detente and threats to use nuclear arms and return the world to the cold war atmosphere.

The committee considered this the first fruit of the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance -- which exists for the purpose of completing the Camp David scheme through controlling our Arab region and looting its resources, particularly the oilfields.

The statement cited the U.S. military maneuvers which were recently carried out in Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia, the U.S. concentrations and naval threats against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and PDRY; explosions in Lebanon and Syria; and the Israeli threats against southern Lebanon and its threats to deal an inevitable military blow to the Palestinian revolution and the National Movement, pointing out that all this clearly indicates the start of a U.S. imperialist onslaught against all the struggling national and progressive forces.

The statement called for bolstering national unity and clinging to the gun, since this constitutes a major means for confronting the Zionist arrogance and the only language understood by the enemy. It called for bolstering and further developing the relations of struggle with the Lebanese National Movement, the forces of steadfastness and confrontation and the socialist bloc, particularly the Soviet Union, in order to firmly reply to these aggressive schemes.

DFLP Official's Remarks

JN171421 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Beirut, 17 Dec (SANA) -- Jamil Hilal, official in charge of information for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said that the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights is not an ordinary decision, but a first grade act of aggression directed against Syria and all the Arab confrontation forces and Arab steadfastness.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Beirut, Hilal stressed that the Israeli decision came after the visit of Philip Habib in the context of the Bright Star maneuvers and after the declaration of the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel. He requested the Arab progressive and nationalist forces to launch a large-scale campaign to impose an economic, trade and financial boycott on the United States that backs the aggressive expansionist U.S. policy. [sentence as received]

DELP Spokesman's Denunciation

JN191954 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 19 Dec (SANA) -- The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has called for offering all-out support for the frontline confrontation forces, represented by Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, facing the enemy.

In a statement published today by its spokesman, the DFLP said that Israeli rejection of the UN Security Council's resolution annulling the decision to annex the Golan constitutes a serious development in the challenge of the Arab and international wills.

The spokesman described this as an escalation of the aggression threatening the peace and security of the region and the whole world. The spokesman strongly condemned U.S. policy and its deceptive and false stands in the Middle East.

The DFLP spokesman said that the direct mission in front of the various units and factions of the Arab liberation movement, particularly the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, is to avoid the trap of illusions the United States is weaving in the region. This direct mission also includes the creation of a serious and bold confrontation of the United States and its strategic interests.

'ARAFAT MAKES INSPECTION TOUR OF SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC220846 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, yesterday made a tour of the positions of the joint forces in southern Lebanon, where he inspected the military preparations by the joint forces and gave instructions to the officers, noncommissioned officers and fighters to confront any eventuality in light of the intensive Israeli military concentrations in the south.

He was accompanied on this tour by Brother Col Haj Isma'il, the commander of the joint forces in the south.

Following his tour, the brother commander in chief held a military meeting with the unit commanders and operations officers. Brother Mustafa Sa'd, the secretary general of the regional political council in southern Lebanon, attended part of the meeting. Brother Abu 'Ammar also attended a meeting of the coordination subcommittee in southern Lebanon.

It should be recalled that the PLO representative at the United Nations yesterday submitted a note to the UN General Assembly, warning about the seriousness of the situation in southern Lebanon and Israel's military preparations and its concentration of several divisions in preparation for a new aggression against the Lebanonese and Palestinian peoples.

Upon the brother commander in chief's return to Beirut last night, he convened a meeting of the Supreme Military Council to study the situation and to prepare for all the possibilities of a confrontation with the Zionist enemy, particularly in view of the escalation of provocations. The council adopted a number of measures to deal with the situation.

SPOKESMAN DENIES ATTEMPT AGAINST 'ARAFAT

JN201545 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] A Palestinian revolutionary spokesman issued the following statement today: Certain local and foreign media have issued news items on the assassination attempt against the life of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. We would like to explain the enemy's objective behind circulating such biased and fabricated news. Particularly in the sensitive situation which the Palestinian revolution faces at a time when there are explosive Israeli military concentrations and propaganda all aimed against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement.

The truth is that one of 'Arafat's drivers was shot 10 days ago as he was returning home in Burj al-Barajinah, and what was broadcast on an attempt against 'Arafat's life is fabricated propaganda and is totally false.

VOP MOURNS DEATH OF PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBER

JN191854 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian revolution mourn with the heroic masses of our Palestinian people and the struggling masses of the Arab nation the death of Faruq Fahmi al-Husayni, former PLO Executive Committee member, PLO Central Council member, Palestinian National Council member and legal adviser to the PLO Executive Committee chairman, who died yesterday, 18 December 1981. He was born in Gaza in 1929.

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC LOAN TO MOROCCO -- In Jidda, an agreement was signed today between the Islamic Development Bank and Morocco to finance $22 million for Morocco's crude oil import. On the Bank's side the agreement was signed by bank director Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali and on Morocco's side it was signed by Moroccan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Zayn al-Abidin el Alaoui, [Text] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Dec 81 GF]

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC INTERIOR MINISTERS TO REVIEW SECURITY

GF211710 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] 'Abdallah Ya'Qub Bisharah, the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], has affirmed that during their meeting in Riyadh on 9 and 10 February the GCC interior ministers will discuss all ideas of the six GCC countries on domestic security.

In a statement to QNA, he said that the GCC is currently studying the dimensions of the conspiracy that Iran plotted against Bahrain in order to learn a lesson from it so as to maintain the security and stability of the Gulf countries and take appropriate measures to confront any conspiracies against their domestic fronts.

The GCC secretary general continued: Practical and scientific studies on safeguarding the domestic security of the GCC countries will be put forward at the interior ministers meetings. The foremost of these studies will be a joint security plan for the six Gulf countries.

BAHRAIN

IRANIAN CHARGE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA

GF211052 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 21 Dec (WAKH) -- Iranian Charge d'Affaires Hasan Shushtarzadeh left Bahrain this morning after the state of Bahrain declared him persona non grata.

It is worth noting that the Bahraini Government asked the Iranian authorities to recall the Iranian charge d'affaires following the discovery of a sabotage plot in which Iran was proved to be involved.

Third Arms Cache Located

GF211904 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1855 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 21 Dec (WAKH) -- A senior Bahraini security official has said that security forces have uncovered a third arms cache belonging to the sabotage network. The cache was cound in eastern Ar-Rifa'.

In a statement in tomorrow's issue of Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, the security official said: "Various types of arms were found in the cache, but the quantity was less than that found in the other two caches."

SAUDI INTERIOR MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrival 19 Dec

GF191533 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1407 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 19 Dec (WAKH) -- Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived here this evening on a 2-day official visit to Bahrain. He is leading a Saudi delegation.

During his visit, the Saudi interior minister will hold talks with Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah on bilateral security cooperation. He will also sign a security agreement with Bahrain on the exchange of security information and the extradition of criminals. Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will be briefed on the results of the investigation into the sabotage group that was arrested recently.

He was received upon arrival by Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah and a number of senior Bahraini officials.

Delivers Message to Amir

GF191920 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1835 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Manama, 19 Dec (WAKH) -- His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a message from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia, pertaining to bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz delivered the message during his meeting with his highness the amir of Bahrain in Manama this evening. Bilateral relations and the current situation in the region were reviewed during the meeting.

Signs Security Agreement

GF201416 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 20 Dec (WAKH) -- A security agreement between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia was signed in Manama today. The agreement was signed by Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah al Khalifah for the state of Bahrain and by Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The agreement provides for the organization of security relations between the Bahraini and Saudi interior ministries, coordination between the two ministries, the extradition of criminals and the coordination of matters that affect the security of the two countries in all cases, whether they affect the security of the state or the security of individuals.

Speaks on Regional Issues

GF201622 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1405 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 20 Dec (WAKH) Saudi Interior Minister Prince Mayif ibn 'abd al-'Aziz has said that any transgression against any Gulf country is a transgression against the security of Saudi Arabia. He declared: "The sabotage plot -- in which those who were implicated have been arrested in Bahrain -- was engineered by the Iranian Government and was directed against Saudi Arabia."

Speaking at a press conference in Manama today, Prince Nayif reaffirmed that Saudi Arabia, with all its capabilities, stands by Bahrain in its present situation. He declared: "The security agreement Saudi Arabia and Bahrain signed today will organize relations between the interior ministries and security organizations of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia."

Prince Nayif said that the agreement includes many things -- which he did not define -- dealing with state security in the two countries, involving either individuals or the state. He said there is more between the two countries than what was stated in the agreement. He said he hopes that a unified agreement will be signed by all Gulf countries.

The Saudi minister said the signing of the agreement was agreed upon prior to the uncovering of the plot. He said the agreement was going to br signed in Riyadh but after the plot was discovered in Bahrain, King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Crown Prince Fahd instructed him to go to Bahrain to sign the agreement to demonstrably affirm Saudi Arabia's support for Bahrain.

Prince Nayif said: "All the facts have not been announced." He stressed to journalists that Saudi Arabia does not tell the media one thing while the facts are something else. However, he added: "We make statements to the media, but for security reasons there is more information that we cannot reveal."

He called for increased cooperaton and coordination in security affairs among the Gulf countries. He declared: "We must achieve such coordination in addition to coordination in the information field, because the Gulf citizen should be given a clear picture of what is happening. This is the responsibility of the media and the press in Gulf countries."

He said that during their upcoming meeting, the interior ministers of the Arab Gulf countries will discuss cooperation in security affairs. He said: "There are prior consultations and studies on all matters connected with security coordination."

The Saudi interior minister stressed the link between Gulf security and Arab security as a whole. He asserted that Arab interior ministers have made great progress in this regard. However, he said he hopes that Arab cooperation in this field will develop an expand.

In his press conference, the Saudi interior minister did not exclude the possibility of the recurrence of an operation similar to the recent sabotage attempt in Bahrain. He said: "We do not say the operation has ended. Indeed, it may be repeated and may occur on a larger or smaller scale in any other Gulf country. The source of such an operation will be Iran -- we should always remember this."

He emphasized that Iran is the only party responsible for such actions and is the only party that can stop them. He asserted that it is in the interest of the Iranians as well as their duty to stop such actions. He said they should be more realistic and deal with the countries of the Gulf and the region in a manner that inspires confidence. He also urged them to refrain from actions that undermine the region's security. He said the Iranian regime will not be deterred and that it is doing all that it can to provoke disturbances and undermine the security of any Gulf country.

The Saudi interior minister said: "The area countries have constantly sought to establish a climate of understanding and cooperation with Iran. Arab Gulf countries are always prepared to meet with Iranian officials to discuss issues of interest to Iran and the Gulf countries. However, we cannot keep opening doors if they keep closing them." He emphasized that the countries of the region are prepared to cooperate with sincerity and good intentions.

Prince Nayif said: "We are not concerned with Bahrain because a group of Saudis are involved in the plot, but because our utmost concern is for security and because the action was aimed at the security of a fraternal country, Bahrain."

Answering a question on the group's exploitation of the policy of freedom of movement in the Gulf countries and whether there is any intention to limit this movement, he said: "It is necessary to have more facilities among the Gulf countries, because these countries are one homeland and we cannot allow the security measures to prevent or impede movement by the sons of our homeland."

He said he hopes the plot will confirm many things that may already be known by security forces of the Gulf countries, concerned people or some sons of the region who are following the intentions and designs of the ruling regime in Iran. He added: "We hope that Iran has no such intentions, because Iran is our neighbor and sister. However, I regret to say that the situation has disappointed us because Iran has become a source of insult and danger to the countries of the region."

The Saudi interior minister disclosed that he conveyed to Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah an offer from Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of any assistance Bahrain might need, without specifying what form the assistance might take.

He denied that Saudi security forces are in Bahrain and said: "If they are ever requested, Saudi security forces will be in any Gulf country in a very short time."

He affirmed that his country is ready to provide any assistance to any Gulf country and said: "All of Saudi Arabia's potential is at the disposal of any Gulf country, if needed."

Prince Nayif referred to Iran's involvement in many incidents in the region and said: "We are not silent, and we are following events. However, we hope reason and wisdom will rule the brothers in Iran and they will give serious consideration to the situation. We hope the clergymen will put an end to such practices that serve Iran's interests and they will cooperate with us as brothers to achieve stability and security in the region."

Prince Nayif said that after the sabotage group, which had been trained, directed and equipped by Iran, was arrested in Bahrain, it became clear this was material evidence that would prove things that had been known beforehand. He said this evidence will dispel any doubts the people of the region, the entire Arab nation and the Muslim nation may have had about the Iranian rulers' ill intentions toward the Gulf countries, which were looking forward to good relations with Iran.

The Saudi interior minister referred to the contacts currently taking place and said: "They are underway, and the current situation has made it necessary to intensify these contacts." He added: "We, in Saudi Arabia, are following the issue with great attention and through all means in order to find out if certain individuals or groups have been charged with a similar operation."

He said he hopes Saudi security forces will be able to learn the facts. He affirmed that followup action will continue as long as there are ill intentions, as indicated by the current situation in Iran.

The Saudi interior minister did not rule out the possibility that anything might happen at any time and said: "According to my information, all Gulf countries are the targets of such plots, as can be demonstrated by the Iranian aggression against Kuwait."

He also said he hopes Iranian officials will have enough wisdom to stop them from carrying out such acts and they will think about the issue and not drag themselves into a situation that will be detrimental to them and the countries of the region.

Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said he regrets Iran's assistance to any individual or group that has ill intentions toward the Gulf. He said: "We have such individuals and groups."

He stressed that the Gulf countries are the targets of plots and are envied for their stability, progress and growth and for their stable governments. He said there are many parties besides Iran who are carrying out activities hostile to the Gulf region.

He also said he regrets the involvement of some Arabs in these matters and added: "Saudi Arabia's policy is not to widen the gap separating the Arab nation."

On the measures Saudi security forces have taken to prevent the recurrence of what happened in Bahrain, the Saudi interior minister said: "In fact, some measures have been taken in the (?security field), but they will not be directed against anyone, nor will they limit the freedom to travel or to enter and leave Saudi Arabia."

Answering a question on whether his country has demanded the extradition of the Saudis who were involved in the recent plot, he said these individuals are Bahraini citizens as well as Saudi citizens.

Referring to the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Saudi interior minister said: "As is known, the Gulf countries and many Arab countries support Iraq in view of the fact that it is an Arab country, a member of the Arab League and a signatory to the [Arab League's] joint defense charter. However, this does not mean these countries want war between Iran and Iran. They want the war to end. Even Iraq has opened all the doors to end the war and has called for ending it." He added: "Iran is closing all the doors that lead to an end to this war, which has lasted more than 1 year."

The Saudi interior minister expressed regret at the assistance some Arab countries have given to Iran in its war, "if indeed such assistance is being rendered." He declared: "Above all, we must seek to end this problem and stop the bloodshed." He added: "It should be known that as Arabs we cannot remain neutral and leave Iraq alone in the arena. It was Iran that transgressed, and Iraq has acted to defend itself. Therefore, our stand must be an Arab stand in support of Iraq. At the same time, we must work to bring about an end to the war."

In answer to a question on whether there are international quarters behind the conspiracy, Prince Nayif said: "The only quarter behind the conspiracy is Iran. If there is anything else it will become known later."

With regard to Iranian-Zionist cooperation, Prince Nayif expressed regret at such cooperation and asserted that Iran, Israel and foreign parties, which he did not name, are acting in unison to harm area countries and the Arab nation as a whole. He stressed that regardless of what the Iranians say, their actions serve Israeli interests.

Prince Nayif said the situation in Iran is clear and well known to all. He said the present situation in Iran is one of the factors that makes it difficult to deal with it. He declared that what is required now is that the peoples of the area, the Arab and Muslim peoples and the peoples of the world, should be sure of Iran's real intentions. He added: "I do not want to be unfair to the Iranian people or to some figures in Iran. However, some of the persons ruling Iran have bad intentions toward the area. There is no better proof of this than what has happened. We should realize this fact. It should be very clear to us." He reiterated his appeal to the Iranians to put an end to this conduct. He recalled what the Iranians said at the beginning of their revolution -- that they would not act as the Gulf's policeman -- and said: "Regretably, they have become the Gulf's terrorists."

He declared that those who have said Islam is their law and policy are the same ones who have violated Islam by harming Muslims.

The Saudi interior minister called on Iran's rulers -- if they are truly Muslim -- to participate in the defense of the Afghan people and to participate in the defense of Muslims who are fighting in other places.

Referring to the actions of some Iranian pilgrims this year who raised slogans against the United States and Israel, Prince Nayif said: "We do not feel it is necessary to say this. However, is it correct to only say that the enemies of Islam are the United States and Israel? Why didn't they say anything about the Soviet Union? Why didn't they say anything about communism? Why didn't they say anything about other parties?" He emphasized that this is a political matter. He declared: "We excuse the Iranians, for they may have their interests, and to say anything about the Soviet Union or anyone else is their own affair. However, as Muslims we should not ignore the enemies of Muslims, whoever they may be."

At the conclusion of his press conference, the Saudi Interior minister expressed regret at the silence of several Western countries and their failure to comment on events in Bahrain or express their views.

He said they have confined themselves to merely reporting the Iranian view. He said: "Such behavior hurts every Arab. If these countries have interests in or relations with Iran, they should have endeavored to persuade Iran to refrain from harming Arab countries. They should have made efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war."

The Saudi interior minister called on Arab Gulf countries to strive to unite the Arab nation and attempt to end Arab differences.

Departure 20 Dec

GF201828 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Dec (WAKH) -- Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Manama this evening after a 2-day visit to Bahrain. He was seen off by Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah and Saudi Ambassador to Bahrain Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qadi.

SAUDI ARABIA

CABINET DISCUSSES ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF GOLAN

LD212158 Riyadh SPA in English 1925 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Dec (SPA) -- The Council of Ministers in a regular weekly meeting tonight presided over by Crown Prince Fahd, the deputy premier, reviewed the situation in the Middle East region following the Israeli Knesset's move to annex the Syrian Golan Heights and the U.S. stand on the Israeli decision, Information Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said here. Following the meeting, Dr. 'Abduh Yamani said Prince Fahd briefed the Cabinet over the world-wide reactions and the unanimous denunciations over the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights.

Dr. 'Abduh Yamani also stated that the council has throughly studied the American stand on the Israeli grave decision. The council expressed its hope that the U.S. administration will firmly stand in the face of the Israeli provocations, its repeated violations of Arab rights and international laws, Dr 'Abduh Yamani added.

Dr. 'Abduh Yamani pointed out that the council also discussed the outcome of Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's visit to Bahrain and expressed its satisfaction over the conclusion of a security cooperation agreement between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

The council endorsed that the Gulf security was an integral responsibility of all the Gulf states and reiterated that Saudi Arabia will stand firm in the face of any attempts to disturb the peace and security of the Gulf region.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT AL-ASAD ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD220918 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0855 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Dec (SPA) -- His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived at Riyadh Airport before noon today on a visit to the kingdom during a tour of a number of countries in the region.

He was welcomed on arrival by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

AMBASSADOR DELIVERS MUBARAK MESSAGE TO REAGAN

NC220640 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan early this morning received a message from President Husni Mubarak concerning the situation in the Middle East. The message was delivered to the U.S. President by Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal during a meeting with the President in his office in the White House.

MENA reports that the recent Israeli move to annex the Golan Heights and the repercussions of this serious action as well as Egypt's views on these developments are among the subjects contained in the message.

ENVOY SAYS MITTERRAND ISRAEL VISIT POSTPONED

NC211531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 21 Dec (MENA) -- French Ambassador to Egypt Philippe Andre Felix Cuvillier has stated that his country welcomes President Husni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to France on 1 February 1982.

The French ambassador made this statement after his meeting today with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. He said that the discussions during the meeting dealt with the situation in the Middle East, especially in the wake of Israel's decision to annex the Golan, and with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson's visit to Cairo which is scheduled to take place in the first half of January 1982. He added that during the meeting, he explained to Kamal Hasan 'Ali France's stand on the Israeli decision to annex the Golan. He said that for this reason, French President Francois Mitterrand's scheduled to visit to Israel has been postponed.

COMMENTARIES ON GOLAN ANNEXATION, AFTERMATH

Strategic Agreement Abrogation

NC211414 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "What is the aftermath of Israel's decision to abrogate the strategic cooperation with Washington."

[Text] The Israeli Government's decision yesterday to unilaterally abrogate the strategic cooperation agreement between Israel and the United States is considered as the most violent escalation of the confrontation between Washington and Tel Aviv in the history of the relations between the two countries. It also represents the most serious Israeli defiance countered by the U.S. administration, particularly the violent tone in which this decision was phrased, as mentioned in the Israeli statement.

The international community condemnation of the provocative Israeli decision to annex the Syrian Golan area and to apply Israeli legislation to it -- on the basis that it is a blatant violation of the international laws and norms and a serious threat to the efforts to establish peace in the area -- definitely shows that the strength of this world reaction lies mainly in the world's concern about the current peace process and the need to continue it and give it a push forward to reach a comprehensive peaceful settlement. This has placed Washington in a critical situation because of its special relations with Israel. Furthermore, Washington is a partner in the peace process which started after signing the Camp David agreements. This has prompted Washington to oppose the Israeli decision annexing the Golan and to adopt a rigid stand on Israel.

Israel's decision to abrogate the strategic cooperation agreement with the United States -- in addition to its rejection and frank defiance of the Security Council's resolution pertaining to the issue of the Golan -- clarifies several important matters.

1. It clarifies how correct the theory is that the United States should place the question of the Middle East peace at the top of its priorities in the region and before the question of security.

2. This abrogation places the U.S. administration in a critical situation vis-a-vis all the world's states, particularly the Arab states which seek a just peace. Furthermore, it has cast a shadow of doubt on the ability of the administration to exert any efforts in this regard in the future.

3. This decision has undoubtedly confirmed the fear of Washington and the entire world of possible new provocative Israeli actions which might endanger the region's peace and security and obstruct the current peace efforts, particularly those related to south Lebanon.

4. This decision will frustrate any possible efforts by the EC states to accelerate the peace process in the region. The decision has made these states reconsider their calculations. The hint by French President Mitterrand that he might cancel his visit to Israel is, perhaps, the best proof of this.

5. This decision does away with any peaceful initiative which the moderate Arab states might embark upon to achieve a comprehensive political settlement in the region. It also increases the possibilities of reaction by some extremist Arab forces, a matter which would lead to heightening the tension in the region and the creation of a dangerous atmosphere threatening the peace in the region and all over the world.

Newspapers on Golan

NC182317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) -- In their issues to be published tomorrow, Saturday, Cairo papers continue to comment on the latest Israeli measures annexing the Golan and the international dimensions of this decision.

AL-AHRAM stresses that Israel's historical or security claims to occupy and annex lands constitute a disavowal of the principles and provisions outlined in the Security Council resolutions and the peace agreements and threaten international relations with the erroneous concept that it imposes on the world -- the policy of fait accompli. In this respect, the paper refers to Israelis previous attempts to hinder the peace march, saying that it sought to annex Arab Jerusalem and struck at the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

AL-AHRAM emphasizes that if Israel is concerned about achieving a comprehensive and peaceful settlement, the (?return) of stability and the establishment of normal relations with the countries of the area, the path is open and prepared. The paper affirms that choosing the method of pushing peace to the verge of an abyss will harm Israel, its people and security, because this will mean returning to the method of confrontation, the imposition of faits accompli and forcing the international community to accept a policy that the whole world rejects.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the U.S. stand rejecting the Israeli decision annexing the occupied Golan must be strengthened by other steps to help Israel realize that the occupation of the lands of others and then swallowing them will not make peace.

On the contrary, this will shake its foundations which were laid down at Camp David. The paper says that in view of the special relations between the United States and Israel, the U.S. stand is considered to be an extremely influential factor in this problem with which the Israeli Government has surprised the whole world. The paper praises the unanimous stand of the world's countries, including the United States, rejecting the Israeli decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights and calling for its cancellation. The paper says that the world now realizes that peace can be achieved by two parties with good intentions and straightforward policy. Peace that depends on one party is a lame peace.

U.S. Praised

NC192345 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2325 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) -- AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that by its recent decision annexing the Syrian Golan Heights, Israel established that it is not a strategic balance for the West in as much as it is a burden on it and that the real strategic balance of the United States in the Middle East is its fair stands regarding the legitimate Arab rights.

In its commentary to be published Sunday, the paper praises the U.S. attitude toward the Israeli decision by suspending the strategic cooperation agreement between it and Israel. The paper calls this a new turning point in the U.S. policy on the Middle East. The paper says that the U.S. stand portrays the extent of the U.S. feeling of resentment and disappointment vis-a-vis the Israeli action annexing the Golan. The United States has realized that Israel attempted to exploit the strategic cooperation agreement to its own interest while disregarding the U.S. interests in the region.

Concluding its commentary, the paper warns of the grave consequences of the Israeli decision annexing the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, particularly as this decision obstructs the just and lasting peace process in the area and violates all international laws.

Reasons for Rejection

NC192354 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) -- In its edition to be published Sunday, AL-AHRAM affirms that the condemnation by Egypt of the annexation of the Golan or Arab Jerusalem stems from one principle, namely, defending the sovereignty and safety of all the Arab territory and the sacredness of every part of it like the sacredness of Sinai to Egypt.

The paper adds that Egypt has adopted its stand based on two main considerations: 1. These measures are by all standards null and void and a flagrant violation of international agreements and international laws, which prohibit, among other things, any topographic or demographical changes in territories under occupation in time of war. 2. Egypt believes that the achievement of peace cannot be only through peaceful settlement between Egypt and Israel but through the peaceful coexistence between Israel and all the peoples in the region. This can only materialize by terminating the Israeli occupation of the Arab territory and restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

U.S.-Israeli Strain Noted

NC210707 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 21 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM writes on its front page about the violent crisis that erupted yesterday between the United States and Israel.

Relations between the two countries have reached their lowest ebb and are threatening their future relations.

The paper says the Israeli Cabinet suddenly decided to annul the strategic cooperation agreement between the two countries because of the U.S. decision to suspend the agreement in protest against Israel's decision to annex the Golan.

The paper also notes the statement made by the spokesman of the Israeli Cabinet, Arieh Na'or, after the Cabinet meeting -- to the effect that the Cabinet considers the strategic cooperation treatment signed on 1 December between Israel and the United States null and void on account of the U.S. decision to suspend its implementation.

U.S. Measures Welcomed

NC201351 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Muhammad al-Bashbishi commentary: "The new American stand is a sign which must be exploited to achieve comprehensive peace."]

[Text] The recent U.S. stand on Israel's annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan plateau is undoubtedly an encouraging sign by the United States and points to important things in the political scene in the Middle East. It simply means that the United States does not admit the legality of unilateral measures which are aimed at changing the status of the territories Israel occupied in the 1967 war.

The United States voted in favor of the UN Security Council's resolution which reaffirms previous resolutions pertaining to the Arab-Israeli dispute. The most important are, naturally, Resolutions Nos 242, 338 and 350, which constitute a basis for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. This peace must be established on the basis of two main principles: Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the right of every state in the region to live in peace within secure and recognized borders.

Although the U.S. voting in favor of the UN resolution might not produce immediate results, it is by all criteria an important change toward a balanced U.S. policy in the Middle East. Egypt has often advocated this and exerted exhaustive efforts to attain this change. In addition to being a success of the Egyptian policy and diplomacy, the new U.S. initiative must be intelligently and shrewdly exploited by the Arabs to achieve their aims of establishing a just and durable peace in the region. This requires an Arab response to the U.S. initiative by which Washington has proved that it is qualified to perform the role of the partner and not merely the mediator in the peace process without being partial to this or that side.

When the Arabs failed at the Fes summit conference to agree on a peaceful formula for settling the Arab-Israeli dispute, they contributed one way or another to paving the way for the serious developments which have taken place in the region and for other similar developments which might take place if they do not go now ahead and define their stand on this issue.

When it accepted the peace option, Egypt wanted to start a new era of peaceful coexistence among the peoples of the region which have suffered the calamities of continuous wars since Israel's establishment in 1948. Egypt wanted this peace to be comprehensive, just and lasting. From this premise, Egypt's strategy is based on the unity, safety and sovereignty of all the Arab states' territories and their sanctity. From this premise also, Egypt placed its hand in that of Israel and signed a peace agreement with it, which we hoped and still hope to serve as a model for similar agreements between Israel and other Arab sides. It is our opinion that this aim cannot be achieved if the road is not paved and the appropriate atmosphere is not created to expand the peace process in the Middle East. This latter aim cannot be realized if all parties do not honor all their pledges and commitments to the aim of peace.

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OPPOSITION PARTY NPUG ISSUES STATEMENT

PM141103 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 6 Dec 81 p 3

["Full text" of statement issued by the Central Committee of the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party after its meeting in Cairo 19 November 1981: We are Still in Disagreement With the Camp David Accords Plan and Course of Action"]

[Text] The Central Committee of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party [NPUG] held its third session for 1981 on 19 November at the party's central headquarters under political circumstances characterized by new changes that have attracted the attention of the members. There was a lengthy discussion of these changes by the members. The aim of the discussion was to formulate specific positions on these changes.

After reviewing the report submitted by the secretary general and the draft political report submitted by the General Secretariat, the Central Committee decided:

1. To approve the main lines of the political report and to refer the report to the drafting committee elected by the Central Committee to incorporate the proposed amendments in accordance with the general trend expressed by the Central Committee. The General Secretariat has been authorized to issue the report after amendment, taking into consideration the Central Committee debate.

2. The Central Committee, having heard the secretary general's report on President Husni Mubarak's meeting with him and the party delegation, welcomes this new step by the president and believes that constructive and equitable dialogue constitutes the first step toward laying the right foundations for political work and toward establishing the rights of political opposition.

3. The conferees address greetings to all the colleagues whose freedom has been restricted, including those detained as far back as 3 September 1981 as well as those detained under the emergency law announced 6 October. The Central Committee pledges to remain faithful to the party's program and political line and to do its best to have them released and to remove all the obstacles impeding their freedom and the freedom of their colleagues representing the patriotic and progressive forces whose freedom has also been restircted.

4. The Central Committee reaffirms its full confidence in the General Secretariat and supports the Secretariat's political line and the speed with which it reacted to events. It also announces its support for the two statements issued by the Secretariat 11 October 1981 and 10 November 1981. It urges it to continue to follow the same course of adhering to the same principles and basic positions of the party while at the same time reponding and opening the road to everything positive and new.

5. The Central Committe, while fully confident of the correctness of the attitudes and principles to which the party committed itself throughout its long march, also realizes that any struggling party must be able to discern and deal with what is new and to work for the fulfillment of that part of it which is sound. The Central Committee has studied with extreme interest the contents of President Husni Mubarak's speech to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council. The committee welcomes the new directives in the speech -- to which the 10 November 1981 statement of the General Secretariat referred -- and believes that change is in itself an aspect of struggle requiring that all the forces interested in the change work toward mobilizing all the energies of the masses and toward giving them the opportunity to express their will. Democracy and the abolition of all the emergency laws that have accumulated over the past period constitute the best way of developing the capabilities of the masses and of subsequently using these capabilities constructively to attain the proposed changes.

Our party realizes that change of this kind calls for practical steps in the service of the homeland and its interests and the people and their aspirations. The party also realizes that the distance between talk about change and its actual achievement must be covered quickly.

6. In this respect, the Central Committee during its meeting today studied the new trends in the economic policy announced by the president. The committee maintains that comprehensive development as a course, planning as a method and the public sector as the means and the basis are all objective prerequisites for progress in the Egyptian economy. The general economic policies followed in the past, beginning with the abrogation of the instruments of planning and control, have turned the mere contemplation of any real development into nothing more than an illusion. Economic development requires planning as a basic precondition of the Egyptian economy. It also calls for a revival of the instruments of development via steps to reanimate the public sector as the steering factor in the economy, to protect the interests of productive and patriotic capatilism, to make the agricultural cooperative movement the basis of agricultural development and to impose government control on currency markets and foreign trade so as to check the market chaos and the price increases and alleviate the suffering of the masses. These measures are only the first step to be taken to enable the Egyptian economy to approach the fight for general development on a firm footing and with sound planning.

The Central Committee has given the utmost attention to the seven points put forward by the president of the republic in relations to the general dialogue. The committee has directed the General Secretariat to take the necessary steps toward a constructive contribution to this dialogue and to offer everything possible to ensure its success and produce the desired practical results, relying here on the studies of these seven points prepared by the party.

7. The Central Committee wishes to reaffirm what was stipulated in the General Secretariat's statement dated 10 November 1981 regarding the Camp David accords, namely that "we are pressed by our conscience to declare that we have been and still are in disagreement with the Camp David accords as a plan and a course of action. Our view must also apply to what is now taking place within this framework. It is not only a national duty but also the dream of every Egyptian to regain all our territory and to sacrifice himself to retrieve every grain of sand on it. However, regaining territory is one thing and our assessment of what is dictated in return is quite another."

8. The Central Committee hopes that Egypt's role as a vanguard of the Arab struggle will be restored, and it also hopes that all the necessary directives will be issues in this respect. The members noted with profound interest the president's assertion in his speech that lofty Egypt will not be a satellite of any state and proud Egypt will not be a part of the strategy of this side or the other.

It believes that this can be assured through full commitment to the policy of nonalignment which, when it was applied, enhanced Egypt's prestige and safeguarded its independence and national integrity.

9. The Central Committee once again underlines the importance of front work and calls on all members to exert all possible efforts to achieve practical results in this connection.

Our party and its masses throughout Egypt -- masses representing the forces which believed in the July Revolution -- as well as all the forces of progress in society, hope that the next phase will see the fulfillment of the aspirations of the Egyptian people in a new, more just, freer and more democratic Egypt.

Long live Egypt as a homeland of freedom, socialism and unity.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

Communique 557

JN181741 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Communique No 557 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 18 December 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Armed with absolute confidence in final victory and in defense of the honor of the Arab nation and Iraq, the soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah are waging a just war against the criminal Khomeyni clique until it returns to its senses and overcomes its sick mentality and expansionist designs. Following is the outcome of our armed forces' military activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant armed forces continued to strike at and destroy the remnants of the collapsing enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions; and to tighten the noose on these forces, inflicting on them grave losses in life and equipment. The known enemy losses, those counted by the competent quarters when this communique was prepared, amount to well over 2,144 dead as well as a large number of wounded and captured and 4 vehicles carrying troops and 2 guns destroyed. Quantities of various kinds of serviceable weapons were seized.
B. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd], killing 13 and destroying 1 excavator and 1 observation post.
C. Nine were killed and three observation posts were destroyed in the Abadan area.
D. Eight were killed and two tanks were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
E. Four were killed and one gun was destroyed in the Dezful area.
F. Our air force heroes continued to raid enemy concentrations and positions in the southern sector of the operations theater, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment. Our aircraft returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to well over 2,178 dead; a large number of wounded and captured; and 2 tanks, 4 vehicles carrying soldiers, 3 guns, 1 excavator and 4 observation posts destroyed. Quantities of various kinds of serviceable weapons were seized.

II. Our Losses:

A. In personnel: 43 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One personnel carrier, two vehicles and three mortars damaged.

Communique 558

JN191657 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi forces have launched a violent attack on the Iranian enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, inflicting on them large losses in life and equipment. The competent quarters have not been able to count these losses as the battle is still going on. This was stated in Communique No 558, issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening. It added that today Iraqi fighter planes continued raiding enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, inflicting massive losses on enemy armor, vehicles and personnel. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

The communique put known enemy losses in the other sectors at 14 killed and 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 excavators, 5 stockpiles of hardware, 3 observation posts and 1 radar destroyed. Our losses were 13 martyred and 2 vehicles and 1 mortar damaged. Following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The soldiers of justice and principles continue to fight the forces of the regime of charlatanry in Iran until this regime admits Iraq's sovereignty and legitimate rights. Following are the results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our capable units launched a strong attack on the defeated enemy units in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, inflicting large losses in life and equipment. The competent quarters were not able to count the enemy losses by the time of this communique. We will give the details in our subsequent communiques.
B. Five killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
C. Three killed and two stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
D. Three killed and one excavator and one radar were destroyed in the Mehran region.
E. Two killed and one stockpile of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan region.
F. One killed and one vehicle, one gun, one excavator, two stockpiles of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
G. Three vehicles were destroyed in the Mimak region opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
H. Our valiant air force continued all day long today to pound enemy positions, concentrations and military targets in the southern sector of the battlefields, inflicting massive losses on enemy armor, vehicles and personnel. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 14 killed and 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 excavators, 5 stockpiles of hardware, 3 observation posts and 1 radar destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles and one mortar damaged.

Communique 559

JN201652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi forces continued to strike at the Iranian enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, killing 700, whose bodies still litter the battlefield. This was stated in Communique No 559 which was issued tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on the military activities during the past 24 hours. The communique put the Iranian enemy losses at 742 dead and 1 personnel carrier, 3 vehicles, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed. The communique said that the Iraqi fighter planes carried out daring and effective raids on the enemy positions in the central and southern sectors of the operations theater, inflicting grave losses on the enemy personnel, tanks and vehicles.

The communique added that the Iraqi forces offered 42 martyrs.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 559 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Every day that passes in our just war, the zeal, determination and will of the men who are loyal to their sublime values and principles become deeper to inflict bitter defeats on the grudge-bearing Persian regime until it recognizes our national and pan-Arab rights. Following are the results of the military activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our victorious units continued to strike at and destroy the remnants of the enemy which are gripped with panic in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment. The known enemy losses which were counted by the competent quarters are well over 700; the bodies still litter the battlefield.
B. One of our units attacked an enemy force in the Shush area, killing 14 and destroying 1 personnel carrier and capturing various serviceable types of equipment.
C. One of our forward units in Sayf Sa'd clashed with an enemy force opposite their positions in Mimak, killing 13 Iranians.
D. Six were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Mehran area.
E. Six were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
F. Three were killed and one vehicle laden with equipment, two stockpiles of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan area.
G. One vehicle was destroyed in the Dezful area.
H. Our hero air force eagles continued their daring and effective raids on the enemy concentrations and positions in the central and southern sectors of the operations theater, inflicting grave losses on its tanks and vehicles. Our eagles returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to well over 742 dead, and 1 personnel carrier, 3 vehicles, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 42 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles damaged.

Communique 560

JN211652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi fighter planes all day today carried out effective raids on enemy positions, concentrations and targets in the central and southern sectors of the operations theater, scoring direct and effective hits. This was stated by Communique No 560 issued tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on the military operations during the past 24 hours. The communique put the Iranians enemy's losses at 76 killed and 2 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed. Also, a number of enemy personnel and large quantities of various types of weaponry were captured.

Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 560 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With valor and determination, our victorious armed forces continued their activities in the operations theater last night and today, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant forces hit hard at the defeated enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, killing 55, wounding many others and capturing a number of its personnel. Our forces also seized large quantities of various types of weaponry.
B. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Shush area, killing 16.
C. Four were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
D. One was killed and one vehicle, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan area.
E. One excavator and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Dezful area.
F. Our brave aircraft all day today attacked enemy military targets, positions and concentrations in the central and southern sectors of the operations theater, scoring direct and effective hits and causing fires and explosions. Our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 76 killed, and 2 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post were destroyed, and a number of enemy personnel and large quantities of various types of weaponry were captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Nine vehicles and two mortars damaged.
C. This afternoon, the Persian enemy shelled the Basra area with heavy artillery.

RED CROSS ASKED TO HELP EVACUATE DEAD IRANIANS

JN191738 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Bagdad, 19 Dec (INA) -- Iraq has called on the International Red Cross organization to quickly contact the Iranian authorities in order to evacuate thousands of Iranian dead in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar region who were left behind on the battlefield and no man's land. This step is taken to avoid the spread of epidemics as a result of the decay of their bodies.

In a memorandum to the international organization, Iraq expressed its readiness not to attack those supervising this mission in accordance with an arrangement made by the Red Cross and with international law.

Iraqi communiques the last 3 days have than 4,000 Iranian dead are still in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar sectors as well as in the no man's land between the two sides. The Iranian authorities have not yet evacuated them.

REACTION TO ISRAELI-U.S. TREATY CANCELLATION

JORDAN TIMES 20 Dec Editorial

JN200942 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Dec 81 p 4

[Editorial "Strange"]

[Text] Stranger things may have happened in the world recently, but we are hard pressed to think of anything more strange than the American Government's "suspension" of its strategic cooperation treaty with Israel as a gesture of American annoyance with Israel's annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. We find it strange because:

1) The entire strategic cooperation concept originated with the Americans themselves, with the twin objectives of placating (ie, paying off) Israel after the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia, and putting teeth into the Reagan crowd's determination to fight the Russians everywhere in the world. To suspend the treaty would seem to hurt the United States more than it would hurt Israel. Well, we understand; they do things differently in America....

2) If Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights has provoked such a move on the part of Washington, why did the Israeli annexation of Jerusalem pass without a whimper of protest from the American Government? If the principle of unilateral annexation is so detested in the United States, by what reasoning does the American Government plan to go ahead with military and fiscal aid to Israel for fiscal 1983 worth some $3 billion -- or $19 from every adult American? Furthermore, between 1950 and 1980, Israel received a total of some $15 billion in American foreign military sales financing. To maintain this level and quality of support for Israel and also "suspend" a strategic cooperation treaty that was cooked up in any case by the United States to begin with strikes us as...badly contradictory and even childish. We are anxious for the United States Government and people to come to grips with the full meaning of their relationship with Israel. But what we are seeing this week is not a step in this direction. It is another bit of fancy make-believe that is noteworthy for its strangeness, above all else.

Radio Commentary

JN211807 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] In reply to the U.S. stand suspending the strategic agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv, the Israeli Government, in a transigent and defiant manner, announced the cancellation of this agreement. The wording of the Israeli announcement and the accusations and phrases it contained makes observers wonder from what position of strength the Israeli Government is addressing the U.S. administration and which party relies on the weapons, money and support of the other? Is it Washington or Tel Aviv?

Those who have followed the U.S. stand closely have undoubtedly noticed that this stand had been more lenient and cautious than any other stand adopted by other countries which had denounced the Israeli annexation measures and had considered them as blatant aggression and explicit and premeditated violation of all the international principles and conventions.

Despite all this, the lenient and cautious U.S. stand has not been received in the same manner by the Israelis. The unilateral cancellation of the strategic agreement by Israel, and at this time in particular, confirms what we have said more than once -- that Israel has always employed its influence in the United States to serve its aggression and expansion, and that Israel has always flouted all interests other than its own, including the interests of the United States and the role that it should play as a big power, which must participate in the establishment of peace and justice in the region and in other tense regions in the world.

By following the Israeli stand, we find ourselves saying what we said before on the eve of the clamor raised on the AWACS deal -- that Israel wants the U.S. executive branch to choose between safeguarding Israel's interests and safeguarding the U.S. interests. This is not only illogical, but is direct and preplanned intervention in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy. It is true that Washington continues to stress that it is committed to Israel's security and to the special relations that links it to Tel Aviv. This reassurance, however, has not been sufficient for Israel. The least that Tel Aviv is asking is to have U.S. support and blessing for every Israeli aggressive measure, regardless of the dangers that this blind blessing and unconditional support may have on U.S. interests in the region, on one side, and on the prestige of the United States, which Reagan has put forth as one of his major tasks, on the other side.

Israel's rejected measures on the Golan Heights have come as the test which revealed the differences and contradictory views each of them has on the strategic agreement. When Washington announced the suspension of the agreement, Israel canceled the agreement intransigently and hostilely. We do not know if Israel has forgotten that it can do nothing without U.S. weapons and political support and that it needs Washington more than the latter needs it. Despite all this, Israel, through its wager on U.S. Jews, has shown that it is the party on which one can depend and not the party which needs to depend on others.

Thus, the Israeli stands, actions and statements have forced Washington to make the inevitable choice; that of restoring its prestige and reputation in the world or giving up this prestige and reputation and choice between carrying out its role as a big power which must shoulder its responsibilities toward justice, peace and right or become a power which approves all the Israeli measures against peace, justice and right. The final decision rests with Washington, whom we do not believe will accept having the Israeli ball in its court for long or having Israel continue to blatantly interfere in every U.S. decision on the Middle East.

We are confident that the U.S. legislative and executive branches will never give in to Israeli blackmail and that the United States will continue with its stand on the measures on the annexation of the Golan Heights and on any other Israeli measures that may hamper the search for peace and justice.

Washington's commitment to Israel's security does not mean that it must be committed to Israeli aggression or arrogance.

AR-RA'Y Comments

JN210809 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Getting Ready for the Next Round," today's AR-RA'Y says: Never has Israel appeared so naked and stripped of even the fig leaf as it did yesterday in the hysterical statement issued by Begin's government in reply to the U.S. stand on the annexation of the Golan. Of course it is neither strange nor new that the Israeli statement contained such defiance or such vocabulary unfamiliar to the contemporary political dictionary. What is strange and surprising is that this statement is directed to the United States itself which created the Zionist entity and supplied it with all means of life. What is stranger is that the statement went so far in its challenge to the United States as to suspect the loyalty of its Jewish citizens by referring to them as Israelis unrelated to the United States.

We are not defending the United States and we have absolutely nothing to do with the outcome of relations between Israel and the United States. This is the business of the U.S. administration which accepts all these slaps without being motivated by them to adopt a just and balanced stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We are concerned about the grave signs contained in the Israeli Government's statement, most prominent of which is the presentation of a new concept for peace based on the submission of the world, and not only the Arabs, to Zionist blackmail, on world acceptance of all rights claimed by Israel and on absolute world silence over all Israeli aggressions. Regardless of what this means to the world, which is being challenged to the extreme by Israel, the Arab nation views it as the disappearance of any chance to settle the conflict with Israel peacefully. The only option for this nation becomes that of confrontation.

What is regrettable and painful is that the Arab situation today reflects a minimum degree of preparedeness for such a confrontation. Arab disruption, as His Majesty King Husayn pointed out yesterday upon receiving the Iraqi National Assembly speaker, provides Israel with an ideal atmosphere to escalate aggression and continue its denial of Arab rights. It is time for this nation to wake up and deal seriously with its fateful cause by mobilizing all potentials and capabilities in preparation for a new round that is looming on the horizon after Israel seems to have succeeded in pushing all events toward it.

JORDAN TIMES 22 Dec Editorial

JN220840 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Dec 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Answers, Please"]

[Text] The mild, even meek, American reaction to Israel's cancellation of the American-Israeli strategic cooperation treaty is not, as some people may see it, a sign of the fundamental power relationship between Israel and the United States -- a relationship whose imbalance lies at the heart of the continuing problems of the Middle East. The ugly fact remains -- and we have seen it in action again this week -- that the United States Government is not totally in control of its policies in the Middle East, and the United States plays the role of Israel's financier without having any parallel say in or control over Israel's aggressive actions in the area. Of course, the Americans would say they do not want to control Israel's actions. But Israel is, for all practical purposes, an appendage of the American fiscal system, as well as an unofficial member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

Mr Begin angrily asked the American ambassador in Israel the other day: Is Israel a vassal state? The answer is: Yes, Israel is a vassal state insofar as it lives by the mercy of American financial aid. But it is also a vassal state that thumbs its nose at its protectors in Washington, and gets away with it every time.

The extraordinary thing is that Israel takes America's money and arms and then proceeds to insult it. The United States is thus once again placed in the position of showing its true colours regarding its relationship with Israel; we will see yet again that the American Government is unable to deal with Israel as it deals with all other nations. We wish some of our friends in America who have any honour and self-respect left inside them would tell us why this is so. Is there an American official who can provide an answer? The entire world waits with open ears.

NCC BACKS GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON GOLAN

JN211412 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The National Consultative Council has strongly denounced Israel's decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights. In a session today chaired by Speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah and attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the ministers, the council expressed its complete and absolute support for the statement issued by the Jordanian Government last Tuesday condemning the Israeli decision and calling on the Arab countries to forego and settle their differences and achieve real Arab solidarity.

At the outset of the session, several council members made statements condemning Israel's decision to annex the Syrian heights, expressing their belief that this decision will not be the first or last as long as it is in line with Zionism's aggressive and expansionist designs. The members praised the wise policy pursued by Jordan under the leadership of King Husayn.

WIFE OF ABU 'AYN PROTESTS TO U.S. OVER EXTRADITION

JN210910 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Amman, 20 Dec (J.T.) -- Mrs. Hiyam Abu 'Ayn, wife of Ziyad Abu 'Ayn, the Palestinian who was extradited to Israel by the U.S. Government on Dec. 13, met today U.S. Ambassador in Amman Richard Viets and handed him a letter of protest against her husband's extradition, the full text of which appears below. Mr. Abu 'Ayn, a 22-year-old Jordanian national, was extradited to face what the Israeli authorities describe as charges connected with a marketplace bombing that killed two Israelis and wounded 36 in Tiberias in May 1979.

Despite the fact that the decision taken by your government concerning the extradition of my husband to the Israeli occupation authorities is illegal, arbitrary, and contradicts all international customs; and despite the inhuman method by which he was extradited; I request the following from the U.S. Government:

1. Following-up on the trial of my husband and ensuring his right to defend himself before a civil and just court.
2. Ensuring that he would not be subject to torture by his Israeli jailers.
3. Allowing a doctor to check my husband at prison, because he was beaten and tortured by the Zionist intelligence men to whom he was handed at Kennedy Airport in New York.
4. Ensuring the right of my husband's family not to be subject to the expropriation of their property or the demolishing of their house since they have nothing to do with the accusation of Ziyad.
5. Allowing Ziyad's sister in Chicago to take all of his belongings, papers, letters and diaries from his federal prison in Chicago and not to deliver them over to the occupation authorities.

Lastly, I condemn the inhuman method by which my husband was taken out of prison in Chicago while his hands, as well as his legs, were cuffed and was carried on a stretcher. I lay all responsibility on your government for his safety and destiny.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL

JN151911 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon ILO Director General Francis Blanchard. Talks dealt with relations between Jordan and the ILO. Blanchard focused on the ILO's role in backing Jordan's development process within the framework of the ILO's ability and specialization.

The talks also dealt with the role of the ILO in following up the implementation of resolutions on studying the Arab workers' conditions in the occupied Arab territories. The two sides also discussed Jordan's proposals on the ILO's technical aid to developing countries in light of the plan His Highness Crown Prince Hasan submitted to the ILO in 1977 on the establishment of an international fund for the compensation of workers.

Labor Minister Dr Hawad al-'Anani attended the meeting.

AL-WAZZAN SPEAKS ON UNIFIL, ARMY, ARAB COMMITTEE

NC191940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Among those with whom Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met today at Government House was the head of the Libyan Brotherhood Salih ad-Duruqi. They discussed the results of the contacts Libya is holding and the situation within the Lebanese and Arab frameworks.

Moreover, Prime Minister al-Wazzan met with editors doyen Milhim Karam, who was accompanied by members of the editors association council. They discussed the general situation and the conditions and dimensions on the Lebanese arena. The meeting turned into a press conference during which Al-Wazzan spoke on many matters.

On the UN forces, Al-Wazzan said: We feel that the presence of these forces is necessary. We have approved the renewal of their mandate more than once. However, we want these forces to have the capability of implementing the UN resolutions, particularly Resolution 425 and its supplements. The permanent Lebanese UN representative, Ghassan Tuwayni, has expressed the Lebanese Government's view on this. During the next 2 months, we shall resume the contacts and the consultations, so that they will not be a period of moral and superficial gratification for Lebanon. We will only be pleased with the liberation of every inch of our land. Our faith in the UN Liberation of every inch of our land. Our faith in the UN initiative and the need to implement it dictate our stands.

On the Arab committee, which is supposed to submit the Arab strategy, and the possibility of this committee being affected by inter-Arab differences, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Had there been such an effect, the leaders would not have approved its formation. It must be supposed in the political awareness required of the Arabs that one question should not affect another. The formation of the committee is proceeding and the Arab League secretary general will visit us immediately after it is formed.

Replying to a question on the army, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: I was honest at the defense committee meeting. I told them: I beg that in questions pertaining to the homeland, we should not look at one another as two groups. Let us extend our hands and cooperate in order to score a victory in the homeland's interest. I made it clear that if there are gaps in the law, then they should define them and bring them forward so that we can rectify them together. We have laid bases for the building of the army and are proceeding accordingly. I repeat what I literally said at the defense committee meeting in this regard and it is recorded. I said: the government is serious and is proceeding to build and qualify the army. The government has a plan for this, but there are specific political conditions which are preventing the government from utilizing the army in security duties, most important being the existence of an important Lebanese group, that is, a fundamental side in detente, that insists that the subject of the army is one of the detente issues. We are tackling this.

BEIRUT RADIO NOTES UNIFIL MANDATE EXTENSION

NC190730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The Security Council has approved, with a 13-vote majority, the extension of the UNIFIL forces mandate for 6 more months. The Soviet Union and East Germany abstained from voting. The resolution issued to this effect says that the Security Council will reconvene in 2 months to evaluate the situation in general in light of the message of the Lebanese permanent delegate to the United Nations, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, to Dr Kurt Waldheim defining Lebanon's conditions, mainly the implementation of Resolution 425 and the reinforcement of the emergency forces to enable them to deploy in their operations area and to help in the deployment of the Lebanese Army and the imposition of the legitimate authority. The Security Council's resolution demands that Israel stop its aggression against Lebanese territory, stresses its past resolutions and reiterates its determination to implement Resolution 425.

POSTPONEMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ASKED

JN212018 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tunis, 21 Dec (SANA) -- The Syrian Arab Republic has requested the postponement of the Arab League Council's extraordinary session from 27 December until after 5 January.

'Isam Anna'ib, Syria's permanent representative to the General Secretariat of the Arab League, met Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi here today and gave him a memorandum.

AL-ASAD TO BEGIN TOUR OF ARAB REGION 22 DEC

JN220626 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad will today begin a tour of fraternal states in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula for talks with the heads of these states on the current situation in the Arab region and potential developments.

The president will begin this tour with a visit to Saudi Arabia.

ATH-THAWRAH Commentary

JN220948 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 22 Dec (SANA) -- The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has stressed that Syria has always been eager to give the joint Arab action its full dimension in the face of the Arab-Zionist conflict, considering confrontation a pan-Arab responsibility toward the Zionist danger which is threatening the whole Arab homeland -- territory, existence and heritage. This Zionist danger, it added, also renders confrontation a national and pan-Arab task which should not be underestimated.

In a commentary today under the headline "Confrontation Is a Pan-Arab Responsibility," ATH-THAWRAH goes on to say: Hence, through its active political movement on the Arab level and through its consultations with Arab brothers, Syria is exerting sincere efforts to promote Arab action to face challenges and to render this action more capable, more effective and more influential in confronting not only the new developments and eventualities, but also in providing Arab potentials that are capable of defeating and putting an end to the Zionist aggression.

The paper adds: The tour President Hafiz begins today in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula falls within this framework. He will consult with the heads of fraternal states on the current situation in the region and its potentials, since these developments concern all Arabs as well as their present and future.

Concluding, the paper says: Syria, which has stressed and embodied its determination more than once, will remain a strong shield and main frontline in the confrontation of the Zionist enemy in defense of the Arab nation. The Arab nation must adopt stands that will protect the supreme Arab interests and thwart hostile schemes. It adds that the consultations leader Al-Asad will hold with the brothers in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula are an important step along this path.

FURTHER REACTION TO ISRAELI DECISION ON GOLAN

Radio Denunciation

JN211348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Washington -- The Zionist enemy's ambassador to the United States will meet here today with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and submit to him a message including the enemy government's reply to the U.S. decision imposing sanctions on Israel as a result of its decision to annex the occupied Golan Heights, particularly the U.S. decision suspending the memorandum on U.S.-Zionist strategic cooperation.

Damascus radio's political editor says that terrorist Begin's announcement canceling the strategic cooperation agreement with the United States in reply to the U.S. administration's freezing of this agreement is a result of Israel's annexation of the Golan and exposes the nature of Israel's practices even with those who declare their commitment to safeguarding its security.

Indeed, ever since their entity was founded, the Zionist leaders proceeded to employ all international stands and forces to implement their scheme: the establishment of a Zionist state extending from the Nile to the Euphrates. Thus, all those opposing them on this issue -- even superficially -- are accused of Nazism and anti-Semitism. With its decision to annex the occupied Golan, Israel gave new proof to the world that it does not recognize any international law or friend or ally if these do not adhere to its laws -- which justify its expansion and aggression.

Terrorist Begin's arrogance and haughtiness have reached such an extent that he is defying the whole world, proceeding from Israel's stand, which embodies aggressiveness and blind malice against all those opposing its expansionist schemes, even if such opposition is merely superficial.

Arabs Urged To Face Challenge

JN220830 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Excerpts] In an article in its "Behind the News" column entitled "Arab Weapons and the New Challenge," TISHRIN says: Israel's resort to exploitation and blackmail in its relations with other countries and all regional and international organizations and quarters to achieve its own expansionist designs and plans is not new to us.

Since we and the whole world are now certain that Israel will not comply with the UN Security Council resolution as demonstrated by its defiant rejection of this unanimous resolution and its cancellation of the strategic cooperation agreement with Washington, just because the latter did not stand in the way of the UN resolution, we, as a nation, are called upon to face this new challenge which has been imposed on us.

We should prove, as Arabs, that we can make the world carry out its unanimous and historic resolution and that we can make the United States firmly decide between its national interests, the interests of the peoples of the region and the interests of world peace and security on the one hand and continuing its alliance with the Zionist entity and its expansionist dreams and plans on the other hand.

The Arabs may have discovered from the grave situation created by Israel's condemned aggression that their rights and cause will not be served simply by obtaining a unanimous UN resolution, no matter how clear and strong it is, but also by standing and talking firmly like Syria and proving to the United Nations and the United States that they are capable of carrying out the Security Council resolution.

Israel has also imposed the same challenge on the international community, which must now respect its resolution and proceed to impose its legitimate will by forcing Israel to carry out the resolution.

Israel may play its cards to avoid implementing the Security Council resolution. It may also use its sharp weapons to influence Washington and adopt stands to jeopardize security and increase tension in the region. However, our nation also has its cards, arms and potentials which it must now fully utilize against the new challenge.

Information Minister Comments

DW211332 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 21 Dec 81 p 104

[Interview with Syrian Minister of Information Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad -- date and place not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr Minister, Israel has annexed the Syrian Golan Heights. Begin confronted you with accomplished facts. What are you going to do?

Ahmad: We appealed to the UN Security Council. We expect an adequate response to Israel's aggressive expansionist move. We will contact all international bodies to restore our right. But these are just additional measures we are taking to defend our territory and our fellow citizens in occupied Golan.

SPIEGEL: What do you mean by additional measures? Are you considering military action?

Ahmad: We are considering all measures to get our territory back. Israel has clearly violated international law. The Israeli enemy is stimulated by the self-conceited arrogance of power and fully backed by the United States in this respect. Now it is up to the UN Security Council to implement human rights and the UN resolutions here in the Middle East.

SPIEGEL: What do you expect of another UN resolution? Wouldn't it have been better to negotiate with Israel directly like Egypt?

Ahmad: Listen, this would turn the truth upside down. Begin himself said: "Even if we make peace with Syria the Golan Heights will remain an inalienable part of Israel." You see, Israel will never return part of the territory it occupied by force. The history of the Arab-Israeli conflict proves that not an inch of Arab soil has been returned to the Arabs as a result of negotiations with Israel. It will be only by force, military force that Israel will be forced to withdraw from the occupied territories.

SPIEGEL: As-Sadat obviously saw it differently. He achieved in negotiations that the Israelis return the Sinai.

Ahmad: Just a moment. You can't argue like that. He got part of Sinai....

SPIEGEL: The last third will be returned by the end of April 1982.

Ahmad: ...In return all of Egypt has had to submit to the Israelis.

SPIEGEL: The Egyptians certainly see it quite differently.

Ahmad: I will tell you quite clearly what we want. We want to liberate our territory, and to this end we will go any length. But we do not want to jeopardize our sovereignty and our future. We want to have a just and lasting peace in this region.

SPIEGEL: What do you mean by that?

Ahmad: It is a peace which is by no means based on the humiliation and subjugation of the Arabs.

SPIEGEL: The annexation of the Golan Heights has also been criticized in Cairo. Do you antitipate support from Egypt and ultimately a return by Cairo to the ranks of the Arab League?

Ahmad: If Egypt wants to return to the Arabs it will first have to annul the treacherous Camp David agreement. We don't expect those who have submitted and sold themselves to the enemy to help us in this patriotic struggle. But we expect support from the Arabs who would die rather than submit to the Israelis.

SPIEGEL: But they are totally divided by differences once again, as the Arab summit in Fes has shown.

Ahmad: The annexation of Golan was not discussed in Fes. Our political principle is still achieving maximum Arab solidarity which manifests itself effectively in the struggle against the occupation policy of the Zionists and their accomplices, U.S. imperialism.

SPIEGEL: Syria is linked to the Soviet Union by friendship treaty....

Ahmad: Stop, stop. I know what you are driving at. For us to say that we will fight against Zionist aggression and occupation means primarily that we must rely on our own resources. Naturally we need the support of all our friends sympathizing with our just cause. But the only power able to check Israel is our own power.

Cables From Mali, Mauritania

JN191722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable from Malian President Moussa Traore denouncing Israel's aggressive measure on the Golan.

The president received a similar cable from Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

President Hafiz al-Asad also received a cable from the commanders of the people's army in the country, stressing that all units of the people's army are standing by to carry out what is requested to liberate the occupied territories.

Message From UAE President

JN191541 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1535 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 19 Dec (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad received a message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with the situation in the region and current developments.

The message was conveyed to President al-Asad during a meeting today by Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, adviser to the UAE president.

Waldheim Informed

JN182148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Syrian permanent UN representative Diya' Allah al-Fattal today sent a message to UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim acquainting him with the latest developments in occupied Golan following the Israeli decision to annex it. In the message, Al-Fattal said that Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights have answered Israel's decision to annex the Golan by staging general strikes and demonstrations to express their complete rejection of the Israeli measures.

Al-Fattal said that these strikes, in which students and all citizens of the Golan participated, have seriously disrupted the normal daily life of the citizens, who were subjected to all forms of pressure and terrorism by the Zionist occupation authorities for expressing their national sentiment. Al-Fattal requested that the message be distributed as an official document of the UN Security Council and General Assembly under items 33 and 64 of their agenda.

DEPUTY PREMIER RECEIVES U.S. AMBASSADOR

JN220747 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 22 Dec (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, received U.S. Ambassador Robert Paganelli in Damascus yesterday evening.

ARMED FORCES CONCLUDE ANNUAL MILITARY TRAINING

JN211948 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Upon instructions from President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and armed forces, our armed forces have concluded their annual training with a two-phased tactical exercise. A number of our armored and mechanical formations participated in the exercise in cooperation with the air force, helicopters and various other forces.

Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of the general staff of the army and armed forces; Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff for operations and training affairs; as well as a number of high-ranking officers of the general command and commanders of the combat forces attended one phase of the practical implementation of this tactical exercise.

The combat operations of the participating commanders and units were characterized by efficiency, firmness and ability to take the initiative to implement successful maneuvers. The mock operations were very similar to real combat.

At the end of this phase, Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi gave instructions to the participants and praised the great efforts of the commanders of the exercise. He also gave instructions for the future in order to further promote the combat capability of our armed forces to carry out their decisive role in the current circumstances facing our Arab nation.

BRIEFS

APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS -- President Hafiz al-Asad has issued a decree appointing Wahib Fadil as governor of Idlib, Shafiq Arnaqut as governor of Latakia and Yasin Rajjuh as governor of Damascus rural areas. [Text] [Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Dec 81 JN]

ALIGNMENT TO JOIN MOTION OF NONCONFIDENCE

TA211820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The chairman of the Alignment faction, Moshe Shahal, informed the Shinuy faction this evening that the Alignment was joining the motion of nonconfidence in the government that will be put forward in the Knesset, on the initiative of Shinuy, on Wednesday morning. The subject is the grave deterioration in Israeli-U.S. relations.

CABINET MINISTERS DISCUSS POSSIBLE COALITION

TA211123 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] The crisis in Israeli-U.S. relations provoked by the prime minister yesterday, the style of his remarks to Ambassador Lewis and his decision to publish the monologue he delivered to him aroused bitterness and astonishment among Cabinet ministers and led to telephone consultations in which even the possibility of reaching conclusions of coalitionary implications was raised.

The Cabinet members attentively listened to the remarks of Prime Minister Begin, who was seated in an armchair (rather than in a wheelchair). The astonishment of the ministers increased as Begin proceeded with his speech. When he had briefed the ministers about his talk with Ambassador Lewis (which was also attended by Ministers Shamir and Sharon who were eyewitnesses but did not interfere in the talks), Ministers Moda'i and Burg began reacting to Begin's remarks. The two said only a few sentences because Mr Begin's state of health precluded a lengthy meeting. Mr Begin was in very great pain and it was obvious that he was suffering enormously. He proposed to continue the meeting but the ministers decided to call it off.

The few sentences Ministers Burg and Moda'i said reflected reservation about the style of Begin's remarks to Lewis and about the escalation in Israeli-U.S. relations. This critical mood was more noticeable in private talks the ministers held after the Cabinet meeting, which bore the nature of political consultations. Several ministers expressed the opinion that the prime minister's behavior was harmful and extraordinary and that he had unjustifiably exacerbated relations with the United States.

It has been learned that in some of the consultations the possibility was raised of even reaching conclusions of coalitionary implications as a result of the crisis created yesterday in Israeli-U.S. relations. However, it is very doubtful whether this idea will be formulated and carried out. In any case, initiatives on coalitionary clarifications should not be expected in the next few days although the question was raised among at least a small group of Knesset members and ministers of the Likud regarding the continuation of the coalitionary partnership in the wake of the political positions recently adopted by Mr Begin.

At the Cabinet meeting Minister Mordekhay Tzipori expressed reservations about the firmness of Begin's remarks to Ambassador Lewis regarding the cancellation of the memorandum of strategic cooperation. The communications minister asked Mr Begin how he could announce the cancellation of the memorandum when its very existence had not yet been approved by the Cabinet and was, therefore, not valid. Mr Begin replied that had he submitted the memorandum to the Cabinet for its approval yesterday he would have mustered maximum support and therefore he felt empowered to announce that, as far as Israel is concerned, the suspension of the memorandum means its cancellation.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent emphasizes that the Cabinet ministers were presented with a fait accompli: The prime minister informed Lewis about the cancellation of the memorandum prior to the Cabinet meeting.

In contrast with several ministers who after the Cabinet meeting criticized the prime minister's behavior, other ministers expressed different views according to which the prime minister's style was extraordinary but his approach was justified and called for by the situation. Those subscribing to the latter approach claimed that Israel had to emphasize to the United States that it is not prepared to capitualte to any pressure and to agree to the conditioning of the memorandum of understanding on the softening of Israel's positions in the negotiations about political questions referring to its relations with its neighbors.

In fact, the Cabinet did not discuss recent developments in Israeli-U.S. realtions in its meeting yesterday. Such a debate is scheduled to be held in the next few days. Neither did the Cabinet decide to publish Mr Begin's remarks to Ambassador Lewis; it was the prime minister who instructed the Cabinet secretary to do so.

Several security reports were heard at the Cabinet meeting. Some of the positions the prime minister adopted regarding these reports encountered opposition in the Cabinet and, as a result, Mr Begin withdrew some of his proposals.

In the Cabinet session the foreign minister reviewed the announcements and messages exchanged between Jerusalem and Washington in the wake of the decision to apply Israeli law on the Golan Heights.

POST FINDS CABINET SUPPORT FOR BEGIN DECISION

TA210620 Jerusalem POST in English 21 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Landau and Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Menahem Begin's harsh haranguing of the United States yesterday was solidly supported -- albeit after the event -- by his government. There were neither objections nor reservations expressed at the weekly Cabinet meeting when the premier told the ministers that he had accused the United States, in his conversation earlier with Ambassador Samuel Lewis, of in effect abrogating the memorandum of understanding which the two countries signed a fortnight ago.

Later in the day, the radio reported some anonymous mutterings by "certain ministers" who were purportedly uneasy with the content and style of the premier's fulmination against Washington. But the Jerusalem POST's inquiries found a good deal of applause within the Cabinet for Begin's ultra-tough line -- and no readiness at all to voice any open criticism.

Ministers also said they firmly believe the premier's statement, which was read out loud to reporters by Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or, reflects the views and sentiments of the great majority of the nation. "I had my hand pumped until it hurt," said one minister, reporting the congratulations showered upon him at a Hanukkah-eve synagogue service last night. "Begin said what he felt -- and what hundreds of thousands of other Israelis also felt."

There was no formal decision by the Cabinet to endorse the premier's statement as an official Cabinet decision. But Na'or said last night that the statement nevertheless had "the validity of a Cabinet decision" because none of the ministers objected to it and they had all known that Begin proposed to publish it in full.

The Prime Minister Began preparing his verbal counter-attack against Washington almost as soon as the administration announced on Friday night its "punitive measures" in the wake of Israel's Golan annexation law. On Saturday morning, according to informed sources, Begin ordered that an English-language stenographer be present the following morning when he, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon would meet with Ambassador Lewis (at Begin's behest). While ministers did not expect the premier to focus his wrath on the memorandum of understanding and proclaim its "abrogation" by the United States many of them certainly did expect him to come up with a particularly vehement Israeli response to the U.S. administration's punitive measures against Israel.

"I haven't noticed the United States punishing other countries that do or say things not to its liking," one minister observed.

For instance, U.S. aid to Syria (a relatively small annual sum) was not cut off in reaction to President Hafiz al-Asad's repeated protestations that he will never support the Middle East peace process, the minister said.

Another minister explained that Israel's wrath had to be especially vehement on this occasion because the "punitive measures" announced by the administration on Friday were deliberately "vocal, demonstrative and disproportionate -- and were clearly designed to please and appease the Arabs even more than to punish Israel.

Still once Begin's statement had been made public and had immediately become headline material around the world, there appeared to be second thoughts in at least some government quarters here. It was thus with undisguised relief that Israeli policymakers and officials heard of Haig's deliberately low-key and conciliatory remarks in a television interview yesterday in response to the premier's rhetorical escalation of U.S.-Israel tension.

The pace of yesterday's events was so rapid and dramatic that ministers are plainly going to need time during the next few days to consult among themselves in party-based and other groups to (belatedly) determine their positions on the details of Begin's long statement and on the future of U.S.-Israel relations.

Said one ministerial moderate last night: "Relations can be repaired -- indeed they must be. The question is how."

SPECULATION ON U.S. SUPPORT OF UN RESOLUTION

TA212007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Cabinet members said today there is no certainty that the United States will actually veto a UN Security Council draft resolution calling for sanctions against Israel. On the other hand, circles in Jerusalem believe that those in the U.S. administration who seek to come to terms with Israel, and who are represented by Secretary of State Haig, will be stronger than those willing to have a confrontation with Israel, as represented by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Our political correspondent says the prime minister is firm in his position that the United States should not be allowed to exert pressure on Israel any time differences of opinion emerge between the two countries. Our correspondent has meanwhile learned of a strong criticism against the style of the prime minister's statements, as reflected yesterday in his conversation with the U.S. ambassador in Israel. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports:

[Ram -- live] Had the prime minister brought the text of what he said to Ambassador Lewis yesterday for endorsement in the Cabinet, this would have been objected to outright, I was told by Cabinet members today. The ministers stressed that what raised their opposition was the style; but, it should be emphasized, most of them identify with the contents. What is being said to Peres during an election campaign rally should not be said to the ambassador of the United States, I was told by one minister.

Ministers also criticized the publication of the statements received through the Cabinet secretary. A diplomatic talk should not be subject to publication by the media and for a public debate, I was told by one Cabinet member this evening. Some ministers are also dismayed over the decision-making procedure and the haste with which important Cabinet decisions are adopted. The root of the trouble is seen by ministers in the delay occurring in the establishment of the ministerial committee for security.

In reaction to these intimations, the director of the Prime Minister's Office, Yehi'el Qadishay said today -- and his view is shared, it should be stressed, by quite a number of ministers -- if this is indeed the feeling of ministers who spoke with you, he told me, why do they not say this in the Cabinet meeting. If indeed they think so, why do they not identify themselves?

MINISTER MODA'I INTERVIEW ON RELATIONS WITH U.S.

TA211651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Telephone interview with Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Moda'i by correspondent Yeshay'ahu Ben-Porat -- live]

[Text] [Question] Mr Minister, how would you, at this stage, describe the state of our relations with the United States?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the state of the relations at this moment is at a low ebb, but this is not the first time such a thing has happened. Relations between countries are not always constant, and in the current case there was no alternative. Israel had to take a stand -- a practical, honorable one, in accordance with the state of affairs.

[Question] Do you also share the view, already being expressed by certain observers, that the worsening of the relations and their coming to a head will in the end perhaps contribute to the rehabilitation of Israeli-U.S. relations in general?

[Answer] If the observers mean that we created such a situation in order to cause a rehabilitation, I reject this out of hand. But, of course, a state of relations has now been created which must be explained, otherwise there can be no future progress in the relations. Nonetheless, I have no doubt that there will be a rehabilitation and that that rehabilitation will clarify what the interests of the United States in this region are, and what our interests in the area are and how we can help each other honorably, and with mutual respect.

[Question] Mr Modavi, in your opinion, does such a rehabilitation require what is called dialogue on a senior political level?

[Answer] I do not know if on a senior political level, but of course rehabilitation cannot be brought about without dialogue and it seems to me that it is not a question here of one dialogue in a marathon meeting, but the rehabilitation of several issues which we will perhaps touch on in your next question.

[Question] My next question -- as I planned it, at any rate -- is a difficult and also a delicate one. We described President Reagan not long ago as a friend, a great friend of Israel. Do you still hold this opinion?

[Answer] I had no grounds to describe President Reagan as a great friend of Israel. Apparently whoever described him in that way heard his pronouncements. To this moment, I, to my great regret, have not heard from Reagan -- except for remarks of courtesy and general talk -- any specific references indicating a far-reaching friendship. But I do not want to say that I have already reached conclusions about President Reagan's position regarding Israel. I would like to hope that whoever described him as a friend, or a great friend of Israel was really right.

RABIN ON U.S. INTENTIONS BEHIND MEMORANDUM MOVE

TA211247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Report on interview with Labor MK Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Shim'on Ayalon, date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Ayalon] According to Yitzhaq Rabin, Israel's relations with the United States today are at one of their lowest ebbs ever. He called for a lessening of the fiery rhetoric on both sides in order to decrease the tension, and he foresees some possibility that the United States really does want to replace the Camp David accords with something else.

[Rabin] I believe that signs of such an intention on the part of the United States were made clear by U.S. official spokesmen talking about the need to expand the Camp David accords -- the encouragement that the United States gave to the Saudi so-called peace plan -- all of them were signs of less interest in continuing the peace process alone on the basis of the Camp David accords.

I am not saying that it justifies what was initiated and the way that it was initiated when it comes to the legislation in the Knesset about the Golan Heights but I would have opposed it mainly because suspicion is that it serves as an excuse, an additional excuse, for the U.S. Government to depart from the Camp David accords.

[Ayalon] Have the events of the past few days been nailed in the coffin of Camp David?

[Rabin] It is the beginning of the end. The main reason was U.S. policy. Unfortunately, we helped it and we gave an excuse to the United States to go on its own way even though it might have happened otherwise.

[Ayalon] Well, what happens now to the U.S.-Israeli relationship?

[Rabin] Well, the first and the most immediate test of our relationship will be the U.S. position in the Security Council of the United Nations. If the United States will not use its veto right to prevent sanctions -- well, then I see ourselves in an entirely different ballgame.

U.S. EMBASSY SOURCE COMMENTS ON RELATIONS

TA211150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] A senior U.S. Embassy source noted that the abrogation of the strategic memorandum would not affect bilateral relations. He told our correspondent, Ahron Barne'a, that the issues of the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] and the pullback from the Sinai were not raised at the meeting held yesterday between Prime Minister Begin and U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis.

LABOR PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT ON U.S. RELATIONS

TA211824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Today there was a consultation about the ebb in U.S.-Israeli relations in Labor Party head Shim'on Peres' office, and the concluding announcement says that the Labor Party is concerned about these developments and calls for every effort to be made to rehabilitate the friendship with Washington. However, it rejects the U.S. intention to punish Israel for its political moves, including the Golan Heights Law. The Labor Party is also concerned over the fact that Israel's defense and foreign affairs policy has over the last few months been dependent on the changing moods of one man, as the announcement phrases it.

FOREIGN MINISTRY MOVES TO COOL DISPUTE WITH U.S.

TA211218 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday adopted several steps with the aim of trying to cool the heated dispute between Israel and the United States which reached an unprecedented peak as a result of the prime minister's meeting with Ambassador Lewis.

Messages conveyed to Washington yesterday through diplomatic channels and Jewish elements were aimed at signaling the U.S. administration of Israel's desire to localize the dispute and return to the road of dialogue and understanding. After the Cabinet session yesterday, various ministers expressed the hope that an improvement in relations between the two countries would occur within a short time. According to the ministers, this hope is based on the interest shared by both countries in maintaining good relations.

One of the issues which may be raised in diplomatic contacts between the two countries in the next few days is the significance of Mr Begin's announcement that he regards the suspension of the memorandum of understanding as its cancellation. The Foreign Ministry may hold onto the fact that the memorandum had not been approved by the Cabinet and, therefore, the announcement on its cancellations calls for clarifications.

Israel will focus its chief political efforts in the next few days on guaranteeing the U.S. readiness to cast a veto at the Security Council on a resolution including sanctions against Israel in the wake of the annexation of the Golan Heights. Political sources regard the U.S. position on this matter as the criteria for testing the ability of both countries to resume their mutual understanding.

SHAMIR HOPES 'DISAGREEMENT' PASSES QUICKLY

TA220811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has told the EEC ambassadors in Israel that the introduction of the Israeli law on the Golan Heights does not contradict Security Council Resolution 242 or close any options. Israel remains ready to negotiate peace without preconditions with Syria, the foreign minister said. He was speaking at a reception given by the EEC ambassadors for British Ambassador Patrick Moberly. Britain is about to end its chairmanship of the EEC.

Referring to Israeli-U.S. relations, the foreign minister said that friends had differences of opinion from time to time and he hopes the current disagreement between Israel and the United States would quickly pass.

Mr Shamir also said there is continual progress in the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, pointing out as an example the arrival in Israel this week of an Egyptian delegation to discuss aspects of civil aviation between the two countries.

HA'ARETZ ON MESSAGE BEHIND U.S. SANCTIONS

TA211839 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Dec 81 p 9

[Ze'ev Schiff commentary: "Washington's Signalling"]

[Text] This is the second time the Reagan administration has punished and imposed sanctions on Israel in reaction to moves made by the Israeli Government. At such times it is advisable not to rejoice at the government's anguish but hope that its spokesmen also keep their mouths shut rather than tell us now that the memorandum of understanding was not at all important or that Washington harms itself when it punishes Israel.

The relations between the two countries might deteriorate even further and, therefore, we will be well-advised to try and interpret what the Americans are signalling to us by means of the sanctions they imposed on Israel in the wake of the Golan Heights law.

Attention should be paid to the fact that all the punitive measures were aimed at the defense establishment. All the sanctions revolve around the security axis, from the memorandum of understanding, the security aid (exchanging dollars into shekels), the security exports through the security industries. The signal is clear: Washington is not satisfied with Ari'el Sharon. Almost all the punitive measures affect what Sharon considers his personal achievements during his visit to Washington or as achievements that will be held in his favor in the future. The Americans are signaling to Sharon and to us that they will harm the prospects of security imports on which Sharon has invested such a great deal; that they will even harm the defense industries subordinate to him; and, of course, that they will harm the memorandum of understanding which is Sharon's "baby" [last word in English] and on which Sharon has pinned hoped for vast achievements in the future.

Why is the main sting of the punitive measures aimed at the defense minister when everybody knows that the initiative on the Golan Law came from the prime minister? It seems that the Americans regard Sharon as a tough nut; as unpredictable and as a man who might yet again take them by surprise. As far as they are concerned, Sharon symbolizes the change in the current Begin government compared to the previous government Begin headed, which had a different makeup. However, all signs indicate that there is another reason: the situation in the north. The Americans fear that Sharon is waiting for an opportunity to launch a comprehensive offensive against the terrorists, and perhaps also against the Syrians. They have suggested that they do not believe the alertness in the north is intended only to prevent a Syrian reaction to the Golan Heights Law, and they are apprehensive that this alertness is also an option for an attack on Lebanon, and maybe also on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. They have unambiguously said as much.

This is the main reason why most of the punitive measures were aimed at the defense establishment. This signal contains some sort of warning that Washington will not approve of any Israeli military moves -- either when the event occurs nor in case the Syrians or the Russians interfere (hence the suspension of the memorandum of understanding that speaks about cooperation against the Soviet Union). They may also be trying to tell us that they will not help us restore and renew our equipment and ammunition after such a war.

The punitive measures should also be seen in a wider context which is not aimed just at the government. Had Washington wanted just to hurt the government responsible for the Golan Heights Law, it would have sufficed with suspending the memorandum of understanding. However, this time the punishment was more extensive. The harm inflicted to the defense industries should be regarded as an economic blow rather than merely as undermining Sharon's achievements. Such a step had not been made to date. One should not rule out the possibility that this is some kind of hint to the Israeli public to express its dissatisfaction about the government's moves and in indirect suggestion that support for moves like the Golan Heights Law carry a price which might affect everyone.

To what extent are these punitive measures harmful to Israel? A distinction should be made between the suspension of the memorandum of understanding and the other measures. The memorandum of understanding revealed itself to be an inflated balloon. We warned that this memorandum did not protect us from punitive measures -- similar to the suspension of the supply of the aircraft -- if we did not behave. True, the memorandum does not oblige us to consult in advance on every move we are going to make. However, the latest affair shows that in fact there is no genuine strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, there is not even an understanding worth mentioning. Neither side reads the other properly and on some fields there are indications of anger and even of incipient hostility. Not only has the memorandum become a mockery, the old strategic dialogue might also fall apart.

A new situation has emerged now enabling a reassessment of the memorandum of understanding. At the time, the memorandum was concluded hastily, almost clandestinely and without the participation of all the pertinent elements (proof to this effect we found in 'Uzi Benziman's commentary in HA'ARETZ on 18 December in which he wrote that the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser had incidentally stepped into the negotiations on the memorandum). The decision should be made now whether we really want this memorandum in its current formulation or whether we would not be better off without it (this commentary was written prior to the Cabinet's decision). Would it not be better to be on a slightly lower floor but in a stabler building? The suspension of the memorandum now gives us the opportunity to state that we would be better off without it and that we will achieve strategic cooperation with Washington by other means.

The economic harm might be more serious and one should not make light of it. Regrettably enough, there have already been instances of such frivolous explanations. Whoever claims that the suspension of the aircraft at the time was more serious does not know what he is talking about. When the aircraft were suspended we were explicitly told behind-the-scenes that this was a transitory situation meant to soothe the Arabs so that they do not adopt any sharper moves and, moreover, that the aircraft had not been suspended at a time of war when they are badly needed. The economic harm today might be more serious because it is aimed at an important factor which is also a lever in periods of calm when we have to prepare our security and economic strength for times of war. At the time, when we were allowed to exchange dollors into shekels we succeeded in quickly setting up the production line of the Merkava tank.

It is true that during President Carter's term the Americans promised they would buy our equipment and spare parts to the tune of $200 million and that they did not entirely keep their promise. However, during Reagan's term this promise was reestablished [musda mehadash] and a delegation was even sent to Israel to reexamine the issue. If the suspension on this matter becomes final and we are not permitted to export equipment containing U.S.-made components, we -- and not only the defense industries -- will be badly hurt. The extent of the damage depends on the length of time these sanctions remain in effect. It is more difficult to revoke such punitive measures than it is to suspend the delivery of aircraft ready to be supplied, especially given the fact that this is the second time sanctions have been imposed. Sharon was right when he said that, as a matter of fact, the basic interests of the United States and Israel are identical and have not changed. However, until this becomes plain once again, we -- rather than the Americans -- might sustain serious damage.

Reference should also be made to the claim that the United States' punitive measures were unexpected. It is true that the prime ministers and his fellow colleagues assumed that the reaction would not be serious this time either and that we would easily extricate ourselves from the imbroglio. However, that was not the opinion held by experts. It is now clear that had the experts -- Foreign Ministry and defense establishment officials -- been consulted prior to the debate in the Cabinet, they would have claimed otherwise. Indeed, they predicted a severe U.S. reaction even before Washington announced them.

Immediately after the Golan Law went into effect these experts explicitly cautioned that Washington might this time adopt punitive measures against Israel, not necessarily because it had been taken by surprise by the application of the law but because, from the U.S. point of view, the Israeli move adversely affected U.S. interests in the Middle East. These experts told policy-makers that Washington is of the opinion that the Golan Heights Law will strengthen Syria's ties with the Soviet Union and will expose the United States to even stronger pressures by the Arabs. Indirectly, the Israeli move might -- in Washington's opinion -- help the Soviet Union by diverting international public opinion from the crisis in Poland and by strengthening its stronghold in the region. The experts were convinced that this time several Western countries would increase their pressure on Washington to punish Israel because the latter, through its latest move, had exacerbated the threat of war in the Middle East.

EGYPT'S KHALIL ON GOLAN, TALKS WITH SYRIA

TA211237 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Dec 81 pp 1, 6

[Interview with Dr Mustafa Khalil, head of Egyptian ruling party, by Cairo correspondent Semadar Peri -- time and place not given]

[Text] If Israel cancels the law on the annexation of the Golan Heights Egypt will be ready to act toward the opening of peace negotiations between Syria and Israel. I was told this by Dr Mustafa Khalil, the former Egyptian prime minister who currently serves as President Mubarak's deputy in his capacity as the head of the ruling party in Egypt, in a special interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

Dr Khalil is considered one of the top men in Egypt and he is scheduled to hold a key post in the Egyptian elite.

Question: Wasn't Egypt's reaction on the Golan Heights Law moderate compared to the outraged reaction of all the Egyptian political institutions?

Answer: We are trying to set an example and precedent of keeping the peace at all costs. Had our reaction been sharper we would have harmed the peace. We want to turn this peace into a model and a precedent for any Arab country wishing to join it.

Question: Fears are creeping up in Israel that Egypt "will settle the bill" after April 1982.

Answer: This is your well-known sensitivity. However, I would like to emphasize the Egyptian aspect of the question. We have also developed our own sensitivity as a result of your lack of confidence. Why have you been suspicious of us the whole time? We cannot understand these constant questions about "what will happen after the withdrawal."

Question: Yet, the Golan Law has been approved by the Knesset, and President Mubarak stated in his message to Begin that it is an obstacle to peace.

Answer: I would like to address myself to the thinking Israeli, to the intelligentsia, to those people with good will and open minds who belive in a better future. I unambiguously assert that if we decided to act together decently accomplish a peaceful coexistence we should use the new law, taking the good parts of it and turning them into an Israeli opening position for conducting negotiations with another Arab country in the region.

Question: But Syria has announced it would not recognize Israel even if the Palestinians were ready to recognize our existence and the Fahd plan expired at the Fes conference.

Answer: I would like the Israeli Law to be regarded as a rigid Israeli opening position for conducting negotiations with Saudi Arabia. This is also my private analysis to rationalize the unexpected and illogical Israeli move. The Fahd plan did not die. The problem is that in the wake of the Golan Law, Syria will pressure the Palestinians not to agree to any compromise in the negotiations on autonomy. This notion may have been behind the idea of applying the new law.

Question: Yet, Syria would act likewise even if there had not been a law on the annexation of the Golan Heights.

Answer: I am ready to commit myself on behalf of Egypt. If Israel cancels the new law, Egypt will undertake to act to open negotiations between Israel and Syria.

Question: But Syria and Egypt have severed their ties.

Answer: Everything must be conducted carefully, gradually and through the right channels. We have such channels at our disposal and we would act through another mediating factor -- the United States, Morocco, Saudi Arabia or a European country that has good relations with Syria. However, all this on the condition that Israel cancels the Golan Law.

Question: Dr Khalil, did I understand your words properly? Will Egypt indeed act to achieve negotiations between Syria and Israel if Israel undertakes to cancel the Golan Law?

Answer: You understood me correctly and you are kindly invited to convey my words to the thinking Israeli.

Question: How do you interpret Prime Minister Begin's motives for passing the law on the annexation of the Golan Heights?

Answer: In my opinion, Begin was subject to constant pressures by an extreme minority within the coalition. Another reason was the concern for the water resources and the northern settlements. Certainly, events in Poland also played a role in the timing of Begin's decision. I do not believe Begin wanted to embarrass President Mubarak or to create problems for him by means of that law. However, this is a by-product of the Israeli law.

Question: How do you see the situation now?

Answer: It seems to me, following what your papers write and my talks with Israelis, that you are reaching the wrong conclusions about Egypt's real policy and its intentions. Look, even our reaction to the Golan Law seems moderate to you. Believe me -- and here I am appealing to all well-intentioned people in Israel -- I have got many and positive plans scheduled for after April. If there is peace between us we will be able to be a good example and a precedent for all the countries in the region.

SOURCES SAY STRATEGIC ACCORD NOT CANCELED

TA221317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem say that the strategic cooperation agreement between Israel and the United States has not been canceled. This is because the United States does not consider it canceled. In his statement on Sunday, Prime Minister Begin told the United States that he considered that the Americans had abrogated the agreement by suspending its provisions. The sources emphasized that the main goal now is to improve relations with the United States.

Knesset member Moshe Arens says it does not really matter whether the strategic agreement is suspended or canceled because in practical terms it is not being implemented. Arens talked to reporter Mark Lavi.

[Begin Arens recording] It is not an agreement that is in force, obviously, and it is doubtful whether it is an agreement that will be enforced in the future. As a matter of fact, I would state quite clearly what the preconditions are -- at least from the Israeli point of view -- for the agreement to come into force, namely that it is an agreement that would serve the interests of Israel and the United States. I think it was our assumption that it was exactly such an agreement we were negotiating with the United States and it was only when the administration as a punitive measure decided to suspend the agreement that it became clear to us that at least the perception of the administration was that this agreement did not serve the interests of the United States but rather it was a bonus paid to the Israelis and that it was being taken back as part of these punitive measures. That being the case, I think both countries will be better off without the agreement.

[Question] Has Israel canceled the agreement as a result of the U.S. suspension of it?

[Answer] Well, it is a question -- if you want to get into the legalistic aspects of it -- it is a question that is just correct to the Foreign Ministry. [as heard] To the best of my knowledge the agreement has not as yet received ratification on either end and so, without ratification and without the intention to ratify it, the agreement is not in force.

[Question] Does the legal situation really matter, considering the fact that the relevant points have already been suspended and are not being enforced?

[Answer] In my view if the agreement does not serve the interests of both countries there is no point in having it. [end recording]

GOLAN DRUZE VILLAGE STRIKE ENDS 20 DEC

TA201022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The strike in the Golan Druze villages is over. Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, reports that this morning all schools and shops opened and the workers set out to their places of work. The decision to end the strike was made in a special rally held in Majdal Shams yesterday. The organizers of the strike threatened to renew it if an attempt is made to impose Israeli identity cards on them.

The Qiryat Shemona police this morning detained three Majdal Shams residents suspected of having thrown stones at journalists who came to the place to cover the events.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ISSUES REGULATIONS ON GOLAN

TA210908 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] From now on the Golan Heights will be incorporated in the Interior Ministry's northern district. Northern District Commissioner Yisra'el Koenig will also be in charge of the Golan Heights. These details were concluded last night by the Interior Ministry which worked out practical regulations for extending Israel's law, jurisdication and administration to the Golan Heights.

Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reported the details on the Interior Ministry's decisions. It was decided, among other things, that all the duties of the staff officers currently subordinate to the military authorities will be canceled and their powers will be transferred to the northern district commissioner. The Interior Ministry will issue appointments to all local councils. Police deployment will be decided in coordination and cooperation with the police inspector general. In addition, the Interior Ministry director general will contact all directors general of the government ministries concerned in order to consolidate a uniform policy regarding the Golan Heights.

Courts Set Up

TA211619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Justice Minister Moshe Nisim signed an order today to set up two magistrate courts in the Golan. One is to be at the village Mas'adah and the other in Qatzrin.

Our correspondent, Ehud Klausner, reports Minister Nisim also gave instructions to extend the jurisdiction of the district court in Nazareth. According to this authorization, it will be able to handle files from the Golan, and will serve as an appeals court for verdicts of the new magistrate courts.

Identification Cards Required

TA220725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The official in charge of the northern district, Yisra'el Keonig, says the extension of Israeli law to the Golan Heights will obligate all residents of the area to carry Israeli identity cards. He told newsmen that one of the problems he would have to deal with in the region was the lack of a proper land registry which would require extensive work. In making the statement, Keonig stresses that the right of property owners would be respected.

TOURISM MINISTER SHARIR TOURS GOLAN HEIGHTS

TA211151 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir visited the Golan Heights this morning. This is the first visit by an Israeli minister to the Golan Heights since Israel's law was applied to the Golan. [as heard] Avraham Sharir told our correspondent Yo'el Dar that the government will make every effort to ensure the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights is an empty statement. As for relations developing between Israel and foreign states as a result of the recent move, Shairi said:

[Begin recording] We have known many crises in the past. This is an ephemeral crisis. I am convinced that by the deeds which have characterized Zionism for dozens of years, we will also be able this time to overcome any kind of crisis, be it political or another. [end recording]

GOLAN DRUZE ALLOWED TO MEET SYRIAN RELATIVES

TA211509 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The Israeli authorities permitted 50 Golan Heights Druze to meet with their relatives from Syria today. The meeting was under UN aegis near the village Majdal Shams in the area separating Syria from Israel. Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, reports that several pro-Syrian Druze also received permission to see relatives. The decision to permit the meeting was made last night after senior-level consultation and, according to our correspondent, was intended to illustrate to supporters of Syria that there is no intention to taking steps against them if they do not go too far.

GOLAN RESIDENTS DETAINED; RELIGIOUS BOYCOTT

TA210741 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Five Druze residents were detained on the Golan Heights last night against the background of relations with Israel and the boycott which was imposed in the Druze villages. Two Mas'adah residents were picked up for allegedly threatening to hit a local social welfare bureau employee who arrived for his mother's funeral. A religious boycott was imposed on the man for collaborating with Israel and he was also prevented from participating in his mother's funeral ceremony. Three 'Ayn Qunyah residents who threatened the local municipality's secretary for alleged collaboration with Israel were also detained.

WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS REQUEST ISRAELI LAW

TA211112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Judaea and Samaria settlements have asked the Cabinet to take action to apply the Israeli law in their areas, too. Our correspondent, Shalom Oren, says that a delegation of representatives from Judaea and Samaria settlements met with Defense Minister Sharon on this matter. The settlements also welcomed Minister Sharon's actions in this respect, regarding the decision to apply Israeli law to the Golan.

SHARON PROMISES TO REOPEN BI'R ZAYT UNIVERSITY

TA180933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The defense minister has promised that Bi'r Zayt University will be reopened if the students do not disturb the peace. He stressed that the studies at the university were stopped because of repeated disturbances, which caused the blocking of traffic in the region.

In a talk with Knesset members Yosi Sarid, Shulamit Aloni and Ya'ir Tzaban, Minister Sharon explained the government supports the expansion of institutions of higher learning in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district, just as everywhere else in the country, and that it has also taken appropriate measures in the matter.

WEST BANK VILLAGERS WARNED AGAINST SLOGANS

TA200955 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0945 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tulkarm, 20 Dec -- The security forces have issued a warning to the leaders of the village of Bal'a, on the main Tulkarm-Nabulus road, after the discovery of hostile slogans on school walls, slogans which called for a school strike, among other things.

It should be noted that slogans and Palestinian flags have been found lately in a Tulkarm district school, and village heads and parents were required to warn the students against a repetition of such acts.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria notes that limited disturbances have continued in Judaea and Samaria over the last few days with youths erecting stone roadblocks and hurling stones at Israeli cars and cars belonging to the security forces. The security forces have detained suspects for interrogation.

MILITARY CENSOR WARNS EAST JERUSALEM PAPER

TA211251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The military censor has warned the East Jerusalem paper ASH-SHA'B that it will adopt measures against it since all the material published, including advertisements, were not submitted for approval. In a letter the military censor sent to the paper it states that the paper published, without permission, inciting material. ASH-SHA'B has already been closed in the past on some occasions for such offenses. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that, among other things, this concerns the publication of reports dealing with the Gaza strike. The paper's editor, Mahmud Ya'ish, answered the censor saying the material published was taken from the Israeli media -- from the press, radio and television -- and that he took the initiative to delete sharp remarks made by the Gaza mayor to the Israeli papers.

The ASH-SHA'B editor complained that the military censor discriminates against his paper and overrules reports which it approves for other Arab-language papers.

ENERGY MINISTER ON NUCLEAR PLANTS, OTHER ISSUES

TA181945 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Energy Minister Yitzhaq Berman interviewed on "Gentlemen the Press" Program by Arye Avneri, Avraham Peleg and Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] As energy minister, you recently were critical of the foot-dragging on decisions about the construction of nuclear reactors -- that, at least, is what the press reported. In your view, is there foot-dragging and should the preparations for nuclear reactors be expedited? If such reactors are constructed, when do you think we will have electricity produced by atomic energy?

[Answer] I was not critical, nor did I say there was any foot-dragging. What I said was that in a certain period it was very easy to obtain nuclear reactors -- that was at the end of the 1960's and the beginning of the 1970's -- and the decision not to purchase them was taken due to economic considerations, which was correct at the time but are not correct today. I am not ready to be a wise man in retrospect and say whether I would have agreed with that decision. Let us not forget that at that time a barrel of oil cost $1.50. No one then imagined that within 10 years the price would be $32, $34 or $40. Obviously, that changes the entire calculation. So it is difficult for me to say today what I would have done had I been a minister then. But clearly, it is regrettable that they did not take advantage of the great opportunity they had.

[Question] But what is the situation today? Where do we stand on this issue?

[Answer] Today it is more difficult to obtain such reactors. We are trying, and I hope these efforts will eventually bear fruit.

[Question] Difficult because of the supervision, because of the price, or simply because there are note to be had?

[Answer] There are reactors, but the political circumstances have changed, and we are being called on today to agree to conditions not everyone can agree to.

[Question] Quite a few of our experts claim we are capable of constructing the lion's share of a reactor, and they suggest we enter into this technology on a serious scale and think about independent construction, or at least partly independent construction. What is your stand on this?

[Answer] Theoretically -- given the brainpower concentrated in Israel and taking into account the fact that we can also get help from experts abroad -- we could do this. The question is how long it would take, how much it would cost -- and here we are speaking of equipment far more sensitive than other equipment. If there were any fault in this equipment it could be dangerous. Therefore we prefer not to rely on our own product but acquire it from abroad, to the degree that we are successful.

[Question] Without referring to the Golan Law, but concerning that law -- which some say was designed to test what will happen with Egypt after the completion of the Sinai withdrawal -- I wanted to ask you about oil supplies from Egypt. Are you worried that after April 1982 Egypt will cut back or totally halt its oil supply?

[Answer] This depends on one's outlook regarding Egypt's readiness to continue peaceful relations with Israel even after the Sinai evacuation. I do not want to be a prophet, but it is clear that, as in other areas, in this sphere, too, we are taking into account all kinds of possibilities.

[Question] What percentage of our oil comes from Egypt?

[Answer] It is our custom -- though I do not know why -- it is a tradition not to reveal details on these matters. However, I would say that we get a very large percentage of our oil needs from Egypt and Mexico.

[Question] Is the price of oil from Egypt cheaper than that from Mexico?

[Answer] The price is reasonable.

[Question] Regarding the sea-to-sea canal: This very positive subject has become controversial on the international level, and even the United Nations has condemned it by a majority vote, or at least against the existing plans. Can we change any part of our plans about the canal to avert international pressure?

[Answer] I do not believe any change of plan would have a great effect. Even if we assume that the canal will extend not exactly from the point which has been determined in the present plan and shift it a few kilometers north, there is still Jordan's claim that the canal is detrimental to its interests on the Dead Sea. And here, no route will make any difference -- their allegation will continue to exist, since it is a political one.

[Question] But perhaps we could alter the level of the canal, and then the Jordanians would get off our back.

[Answer] We are not considering any such step; certainly not if it would cause harm. The level of the Dead Sea has dropped by about 10 meters during the past 20 years or so. It has dropped mainly because of the water that has flowed into Jordan in larger quantities. In addition, there is also the process of evaporation. They built their asphalt plants before the level dropped -- that is, they are built for higher levers, and the same applies to our own installations. When we cause water to flow into the Dead Sea the level will rise and we will raise it to that level. When we reach that level, we will have to regulate the amount of water entering, taking into account the evaporation process, so that we do not hurt them or ourselves. We have also announced that we are ready to negotiate with them in order to convince them and hear from them any ideas they may have about amendments to the plan.

[Question] Have there been any Jordanian reactions?

[Answer] There have been no reactions, for the simple reason that they are absolutely certain that we are drawing up our plans in such a way that they will not be detrimental to Jordan's interests.

BEGIN: SINAI EXIT DEPENDS ON MFO ESTABLISHMENT

TA210820 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Dec 81 pp 1, 6

[Report by Tzvi Kesler]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday told U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis that if the Multinational Froce and Observers [MFO] is not established "we will remain on the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line" and we will not complete the withdrawal from the Sinai.

These remarks were not included in the official announcement on the prime minister's remarks to the U.S. ambassador which was ready by the Cabinet secretary. This is the first time that the prime minister has threatened that Israel will not carry out the withdrawal.

The prime minister said: "I have read that in the wake of the events on the Golan Heights Secretary of State Haig announced that it may not be possible to establish the MFO. If this is the outcome, then we will remain on the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line."

Begin added: "The MFO must be deployed in bases in the Sinai in March so that Israel can carry out the withdrawal from the Sinai in April. Israel wants to fulfill its undertakings and if the MFO is established we will go ahead with the withdrawal. However, if the MFO is not established -- in spite of the expressions of hooliganism with which they [not further specified] were recently welcomed in Yamit -- we will not be able to carry out the withdrawal.

Political elements in Jerusalem yesterday paid attention to one of the most important paragraphs in Begin's remarks to the U.S. ambassador and expressed fear that this paragraph would be the one to arouse the sharpest U.S. reaction. The prime minister said that "on the issue of Lebanon I asked that the secretary of state be informed that we will not initiate a war. However, if we are attacked by the terrorists or the Syrians, we will launch a counterattack."

[Following paragraph in bold print] In his remarks, the prime minister in fact spoke emphatically about the terrorists and mentioned them before the Syrians. Political elements noted that the practical significance of Begin's remarks is that any Katyusha attack on the part of the terrorists in Lebanon would serve Israel as a pretext ['ila] to attack Lebanon.

Political circles in Jerusalem say that Begin "is betting on the whole pot." Begin's remarks to the ambassador -- which were unprecedentedly sharp in the history of Israeli-U.S. relations -- were aimed at making it plain to the Americans that by punishing Israel they would not accomplish a thing.

It is estimated in Jerusalem that the Americans believe that Begin means what he says in his warnings about not completing the withdrawal and about an Israeli counterattack in Lebanon. Begin "has put the ball in the U.S. court" and he is now in a waiting position expecting their reaction. It is said in Jerusalem that the United States will now have to make up its mind regarding the kind of relations it wants with Israel and whether the Camp David accords will be carried out.

At the Cabinet session held yesterday following the meeting between Begin and Ambassador Lewis, the chief of staff and defense establishment officials reported on the situation on the Syrian border and on the IDF's preparations along the northern border. This morning, HA'ARETZ reports that some of the positions adopted by Begin regarding the security reports encountered objections in the Cabinet and, as a result, Begin went back on some of his proposals.

In his meeting with Lewis, Begin also addressed himself to the situation in Poland and asked "to pass some advice" on this issue to the U.S. secretary of state. Begin said that the United States was making a mistake in withholding food deliveries to Poland. "Who are you helping in this move?" Begin asked and answered rhetorically: "only the Soviet Union."

Begin told the U.S. ambassador: "Believe me, it is not easy to rebel and to stand up against machineguns and tanks. However, it is much more difficult to do so when you are hungry. I propose that you convey my opinion to the secretary of state, that food deliveries and other humanitarian aid should continue to be sent to the courageous and proud Polish people and each package should bear the words 'made in the U.S.A.' and they will thank you for it."

Ambassador Lewis promised to relay this suggestion, too, to Secretary Haig.

POST REPORTS RENEWAL OF UNIFIL MANDATE

TA201012 Jerusalem POST in English 20 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] United Nations -- The Security Council decided late last night, a few hours before the expiration of the mandate of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] to renew it for another 6 months and to review the mandate with 2 months.

The decision to review the mandate within 2 months is a result of a Lebanese request to strengthen UNIFIL by at least 1,000 troops and to widen its authority. Since the United Nations was unable to fulfil this request immediately, the decision to review the mandate in another two months is considered a tactic to delay a decision on the Lebanese request without rejecting it out of hand.

TALKS WITH EEC ANNOUNCED FOR JANUARY

TA182012 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The EEC and Israel will next month begin talks on the arrangements for Portugal's and Spain's incorporation in the EEC. The EEC's economic cooperation minister said this to the Israeli Knesset delegation which is currently holding meetings with European Parliament officials. The head of the Knesset economics committee, Gad Ya'aqobi, requested that the Europeans establish and agricultural free trade zone for the EEC and Mediterranean countries.

DOUBLING OF TRADE WITH FRANCE SOUGHT

TA191705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Israel wants to double within 3 years the scope of trade with France. It is to this end that discussions are now underway in the Israeli Foreign and Finance Ministries. Most of the proposals will be raised in the joint Israeli-French committee that will convene in 3 months after a long break.

FRANCE AGREES TO NUCLEAR RESEARCH COOPERATION

TA180933 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Dec 81 p 2

[Gid'on Qotz report]

[Text] Paris -- An agreement in principle on cooperation between Israel and France in the field of nuclear sciences has been achieved in Paris. This refers to the establishment of a common research and development fund for both countries that will deal with this subject and other research fields.

Deliberations on this issue were held last year even with the previous administration in Franch at the time the French-Iraqi cooperation was flourishing. It was the French who cooperated in the field of research. However, Israel did not agree to the total sum France wanted to be devoted to the fund on all the research topics, $0.5 million.

It is not yet clear if the new French participation is higher any by how much. To date Israel has refused to reach an arrangement on anything involving the nuclear sciences under the proposed conditions, so that this would not serve as a "cheap" excuse for French nuclear aid to Iraq.

SOURCES DOUBT REPORTS ON JEWS IN POLAND

TA200919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Our correspondent, Avraham Ben-Melekh, reports that Israel doubts reports that about 2,000 Jews have been detained in Poland. It is believed that the reports are very exaggerated and unreliable. Poland is now going through a wave of anti-Jewish publications and anti-Semitism has indeed increased, but this does not necessarily indicate extensive arrests of Jews simply because of their Jewishness. It is estimated in Jerusalem that the source of the West European reports is Solidarity members who are trying to arouse the world Jewish organizations for a struggle against the Polish authorities. It is known that some of the Solidarity activists are either Jewish or of Jewish origin.

BULGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR 8-DAY VISIT

TA220818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] A Bulgarian delegation arrived in Israel last night as the guest of the Rakah center. The three-member delegation includes Yitzhaq Levi, deputy director of a department in the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee. The delegation will stay 8 days in Israel.

ZAIRE PRESIDENT EQUIVOCATES ON RELATIONS

TA211205 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] It has been reported from the newsroom that Zaire has not yet decided whether to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. It sharply condemned Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights. This is what Zaire President Mobutu said in a news conference in Gabon. He said that the Golan Law contradicts the peace process in the Middle East and should not be accepted. As for a resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel, he repeated that the decision will be made only after a consultation with the rest of the African countries.

SWITZERLAND TO BUY ISRAELI TANK ENGINES, GUNS

TA220821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The Swiss Defense Ministry has confirmed that it will buy engines and guns for 300 Centurion tanks from Israeli Military Industries. The Swiss Army ought the tanks from Britain but was not satisfied with them and the manufacturer Vickers, did not succeed in properly repairing them. The military industries will earn 600 million Swiss francs from the deal.

LIBYA

PAPER URGES VIGILANCE AGAINST 'CHALLENGES'

LD212224 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] In a frontpage article under the caption "A Warning," the newspaper AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR writes: One of the basic responsibilities resulting from the enjoyment of freedom and the exercise of politics and sovereignty in the society of popular authority is that the Jamahiriyah citizen who, thanks to the revolution, now has authority, wealth and arms, should be vigilant and alert in the face of the growing signs of external challenges. He should fully understand their causes, motives and objectives. He also should monitor their development so that as soon as they take place he can make his revolutionary decision and take deterrent action on a level compatible to that of the gravity of the escalating aggressiveness of the challenges which aim to abort the prevalent climate of freedom, to detract from the popular authority and to obstruct the wheels of the historic cultural development taking place in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The society of popular authority has crushed the walls of the monopolization of politics forever. Matters of politics and sovereignty are no longer discussed in the palaces behind closed doors. They are now discussed in the open inside the basic popular congresses where once more the model is being formulated of the free man who is capable of shouldering his responsibilities in defense of his authority, wealth and arms.

As a result of our careful analysis of the signs of external challenges and to put things in their true perspective, we must say that the Jamahiriyah people are facing a real war. It is not necessary for the tools of wars to be arms alone. They also cover all the economic, propaganda, political and psychological weapons which together pave the way for the armed battle with the enemy.

So far, our people have been faced with economic weapons, such as the U.S. imperialist decision to recall the U.S. companies and expertise, to impose economic pressure and a blockade and to instigate the NATO member countries to adopt similar economic decisions.

There also is the reactionary group which also brandishes the weapon of economic pressure by glutting the world markets with oil and cutting the oil prices, a matter which helps to enchance the U.S. imperialist economy and to harm the economic interests of the oil-producing peoples. All this takes place under the umbrella of a declared economic war imposed by imperialism against the people of the Jamahiriyah.

There also are the venomous propaganda weapons whose rancorous pictures we see in the press of the imperialists and their lackeys in the world who seek to defame the people of the Jamahiriyah and the commander of the revolution and to level false charges and lies against them. This is some kind of black propaganda to which people usually resort to create pretexts and to prepare the ground for imposing an armed battle.

The question, however, is why the war and what are its objectives and dimensions? To answer this question, we say that had it not been for the pioneering applications of the cultural principles of the Green Book, the establishment of the people's authority and the liquidation of the areas of exploitation and the corrupt reactionary rightist cells; had it not been for the Jamahiriyan's support for the causes of freedom and liberation -- the Jamahiriyah becoming a haven for international resistance against imperialism; had it not been for the Great 1 September Revolution's championing of the causes of Palestine, Arab unity and the popular revolution; had it not been for its instigation of others to stand up against the U.S.-Zionist aggressive offensive, to strike at the monopolist interests and U.S. bases and to force the foreign fleets to remain away from Arab shores, thereby safeguarding national security and consolidating Arab independence -- had it not been for all these matters, we would not have had any problem with the United States.

But the United States wants to turn us into a subservient lackey just like the other agent regimes in the Arab homeland. It refuses to let the people's choose their own political, economic and social systems in complete freedom, to affirm their true freedom to exercise popular authority and take control of their wealth and to liquidate the pillars of exploitation.

Hence, it is essential for the people of the Jamahiriyah to choose one of two options: either to abandon all their principles to avoid clashing with the United States or to uphold their principles and accept the challenge in the face of the staunchest imperialist power, even if that means their total annihiliation, just for the sake of their honor and glory and dignity.

The Jamahiriyah people have chosen to tie their fate and existence to the continuity of their principles and to affirm their constant perpetuation, even at the cost of fighting the whole world or death. We prefer to die rather than live as slaves under the feet of the United States.

In conclusion, AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR writes: As long as the people of the Jamahiriyah are people of principles, values and sublime ideals, one of the priorities of facing up to the U.S. challenge is for us to exert further pressure on the wound which pains U.S. imperialism and lead it to inevitable doom. We must affirm our revolutionary choices symbolized in the consolidation of the popular resistance and promote them both internally and externally. We also must continue our attacks against the elements of exploitation and the remnants of the rotten reactionary right and speed up the implementation of the concept of armed people and the society of free partners. We also must uphold the defense of freedom in the international field. These are the essential duties of the revolutionary committees.

We must not overlook the fact that there is a wide front of brothers and friends who were provoked by the aggressive U.S. imperialist designs against the Jamahiriyah and thus rushed to stand by us, aiding and supporting us. Undoubtedly, we will triumph with own own power and that of the peoples supporting us.

We address a strong warning to the agent traitors, the naive and unimportant, the friends of the United States. Woe unto them. Death for imperialism and victory for us. The struggle will continue.

KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI

LD192142 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah during a tour that includes Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania. There was a big welcome at Tripoli International Airport and Staff Maj Abd as-Salam Jallud was there to welcome him.

In a statement to newsmen on arrival, Shayk Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah said: I and the members of the delegation accompanying me are happy to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and to meet our brothers in this steadfast country. We in Kuwait are aware of the degree of dangers and the size of the challenges and pressures faced by every Arab country. We think it is time for us to work together to consolidate Arab solidarity and to stand in one rank to face the enemies of the Arab nation.

Jallud Welcomes Visit

LD201506 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud said the visit of Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah to the Jamahiriyah assumes special significance at this time as the dimensions of the imperialist challenges to the Arab nation are increasing. Major Jallud told newsmen after the arrival of Shaykh Sa'd at Tripoli International Airport that this visit will be an opportunity to exchange views with our brother Kuwaitis on the need to understand Arab reality and accept the challenges in a much more decisive and serious way.

We continue: The Arab people in the Jamahiriyah and Kuwait are championing the path of unity of Arab action against the enemy of the Arab nation which is threatening its (?independence and existence). He added that this visit will afford a good opportunity to talk about issues important to our nation because the Arab future is one and Arab responsibility is one. He said: We must set aside definitions and statements and confront challenges with action. He stressed that these challenges are aimed at the existence of the Arab nation, that this nation from the ocean to the Gulf can exist only under Arab nationalism and that the illusions championed by the capitulationists about the possibility of coexisting with the enemy are meant to make this nation submit and bring it to its knees.

Staff Maj Brother 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud explained that in the Jamahiriyah we follow with interest the (?role) of our brothers in Kuwait and their activities.

Talks Begin 19 Dec

LD201516 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (JANA) -- Libyan-Kuwaiti talks started yesterday evening at the international conference hall in Tripoli.

Those taking part in these talks were Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, brother secretary for foreign liaison, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, the secretary of heavy industries, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Treasury, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Services, the secretary of the Administrative Committee for Revolutionary Information, the general secretary for contacts at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, the secretary general of the General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport and the general secretary of the General People's Committee for Education. Taking part from the Kuwaiti side were Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of the fraternal state of Kuwait; Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for Cabinet affairs; Brother Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq, minister of commerce and industry; Brother 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad, minister of finance and planning; brother Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz, under secretary of the foreign affairs ministry; Shaykh Nasir Mohammad as-Sabah, under secretary of the information ministry and a number of Kuwaiti officials accompanying Shaykh Sa'd 'Abdallah as-Sabah.

Jallud Hosts Banquet

NC210736 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud last night held a dinner banquet at the guest (?house) in Tripoli in honor of Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of the fraternal state of Kuwait, and the delegation accompanying him. The dinner was attended by the brother members of the General Popular Committee and the heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Joint Communique Issued

LD211642 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Dec 81

["Text" of joint communique issued at the end of the 19-21 December visit to Libya of Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah]

[Text] Tripoli, 21 Dec (JANA) -- In response to an official invitation from Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, his highness the crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, paid an official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyan from 19-21 December 1981. His highness the guest and the accompanying delegation were accorded a fraternal and official welcome demonstrating the depth of the fraternal ties between the two countries and their fraternal peoples.

On this occasion, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, received in audience His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. His highness conveyed to Brother Colonel al-Qadhdafi a verbal message from his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, containing expressions of cordiality and true fraternity and the desire to consolidate cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Talks chaired on the Libyan side by Brother Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and on the Kuwaiti side by Crown Prince and Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah were held in an atmosphere of understanding. The two sides reviewed the strong bilateral ties between the two fraternal countries and expressed their complete satisfaction with what has been achieved through joint action and continuous cooperation. They reaffirmed their determination to take further steps to expand the scope of this cooperation in the economic, oil, investment, information, education and cultural domains and in various other fields to realize all the constructive aspirations of the two countries and their fraternal peoples.

The two sides discussed the current situation in the Arab region, particularly the Palestinian question, the continuing Zionist occupation of Arab land and the Zionist enemy's expansionist schemes and criminal practices against the Arab nation both inside and outside the occupied territory. In this respect, the two sides voiced their pride at the growing popular uprising in the occupied and land stressed the need for action to strengthen the resistance of the Arab Palestinian people and their struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to recover their land and from their own independent state on Palestinian national territory.

The two sides denounced the recent Zionist declaration on the annexation of the Golan as revealing the expansionist nature of the Zionist enemy and constituting a manifestation of the continuous American support for the Zionist enemy. This support has encouraged the enemy in further pursuing its expansionist and aggressive policies against the Arab nation. To face up to these schemes, the Arab nation is now dutybound to act toward the establishment of a unified strategy that will continue to affirm unified Arab action and through which the Arab nation will mobilize its military, economic and political potentials to confront the common enemy.

In reviewing the situation in Lebanon, the two sides emphasized the Arab character and unity of Lebanon and their support for the Arab efforts to restore security and stability to this country. The two sides also reviewed the joint Arab action and discussed why it is stumbling. In this respect, they stressed the need for unified joint Arab action in facing up to the enemy and for action to remove all traces of marginal Arab disputes and the need to settle all these disputes in a constructive fraternal spirit to devote ourselves exclusively to facing up to the fateful dangers looming over the Arab nation in this delicate stage of its history.

The two sides discussed the American assault against the Jamahiriyah and the economic and technological blockade imposed by the American administration against it. As an expression of the unity of Arab action, Kuwait reaffirmed its stand in solidarity with the Jamahiriyah, and the Arab Libyan side expressed its appreciation for the position adopted by Kuwait and the latter's denunciation of these American measures.

In discussing the situation in the Arab Gulf, the two sides expressed their eagerness to keep the area free from international conflicts and their opposition to any form of foreign presence of military intervention in that region. The Kuwaiti side noted the measures and decisions made in the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The Arab Libyan side expressed its support for all the sincere efforts aimed at using the potentials and assets of the region in service of national and pan-Arab causes.

The two sides expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war because of the dangers it poses to the two warring countries and to the security of the region and given the waste of Arab and Islamic potentials it involves. The two sides emphasized their support for efforts undertaken to rapidly end this war.

In reviewing the situation in Africa, the two sides came out in support for the struggle of the liberation movements in the continent, particularly the struggles of the people of Namibia and the people of South Africa to achieve freedom and independence.

The Kuwaiti side lauded the Arab Libyan role in Chad and its role in restoring security and stability to this African country.

The two sides voiced their deep satisfaction with the results of the visit and stressed the importance of the continuity of the exchange of friendly visits by officials of the two countries.

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah expressed his profound gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and the accompanying delegation. His highness also hailed the achievements of the Great 1 September Revolution and recorded his appreciation for these achievements.

His Highness extended an invitation to Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud to visit his second country, Kuwait. His excellency accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

Kuwaiti Delegation Departs

LD211242 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of the fraternal State of Kuwait, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this morning following a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. A great farewell ceremony was held for Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah. Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud was at the forefront of the farewell group at Tripoli International Airport. Members of the General People's Committee, many armed forces officers and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Jamahiriyah, took part in the farewell ceremony.

The brother secretary of heavy industries and Brother 'Abd al-Latif al-Hamad, Kuwaiti minister of finance and planning, this morning signed the protocol for economic, cultural and scientific cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the State of Kuwait.

An agreement for information cooperation was signed today in Tripoli between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahariyah and the State of Kuwait. The agreement regulates cooperation in the various spheres of information and coordination between the information organs of the two countries.

FOREIGN TEACHERS IN LIBYA REJECT REAGAN CLAIMS

LD180948 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Dec (JANA) -- American and British members of the teaching staff of the new Tripoli college sent a message to the commander of the revolution, in which they expressed their categorical rejection of the allegations being propagated by the current U.S. administration in an attempt to consolidate the charges that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was working for the assassination of President Reagan and some of his aides.

The American and British teachers pointed out that Reagan's decision to force American citizens to leave Libya was based on fallacies since President Reagan's claims are unfounded. Under no circumstances would these allegations be accepted, they said.

The message said American citizens working in the Jamahiriyah enjoy all respect and a prosperous life among the Libyan Arab people and have complete freedom of movement throughout the country, enjoying the protection of Libyan laws.

American President Reagan's allegations that Americans working in Libya are living under insecure conditions were mere fabrications and distortion of facts, which are refuted by reality.

The American and British teachers added: We enjoy full security and so do all foreigners in Libya. We affirm that we are able to practice our religions in an atmosphere of reassurance and psycological comfort. We will corroborate our statements with a film showing how we enjoy freedom and how respectfully the Libyan people treat us. Undoubtedly, we will show this film for the benefit of the American people so that together we will show Reagan's allegations to be a source of mockery.

TRIPOLI REPORTS ON DELEGATION TALKS IN BENIN

NC220836 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The meetings held between a delegation from the force of the revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Committees for the Defense of the revolution in the People's Republic of Benin concluded yesterday in Cotonou, capital of the People's Republic of Benin. The meetings were convened within the context of strengthening relations between the Libyan Arab people and the people of Benin.

In concluding their meetings, the members of the two delegations affirmed their readiness to resist the U.S. imperialist onslaught on the peoples of the area, first and foremost the Libyan Arab people who have proclaimed the emergence of the people's authority, who have announced their limitless support for the struggling peoples and who stand firmly against the forces of terrorism and aggression.

The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution in Benin louded the role of the force of the revolution in the Jamahiriyah and its diligent work in the Arab, African and international domains -- a work done by preaching the humanitarian reforms contained in the Green Book. These reforms champion the causes of liberty, emancipation from slavery and freedom from imperialism. These reforms also call for inducing the masses to wield their authority, revolution and arms.

SUDAN

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., CHAD

JN201222 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Madani, Sudan, 20 Dec (SUNA) -- Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali yesterday visited the city of Madani, capital of Central Province. During this visit, in the company of Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani and the Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum, Dr Ghali observed the province's economies and investment potentials. Dr Ghali also visited the Al-Jazirah project and observed its economic and social potentials.

'Abd ar-Rahim Mahmud, governor of Central Province, welcomed the Egyptian minister and referred to the joint efforts by the government of the Central Province and the Egyptian governorate of Al-Jizah to reach integration agreements between them so as to emb ody their fraternal solidarity.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani praised U.S. aid to Sudan and said Sudan seeks to establish similar relations with all countries of the world in accordance with the principle of respect for national sovereignty and noninterference in other peoples' affairs.

Foreign Minister Mirghani said Sudan is strong enough to defend its territory against outside blocs and all it wants from friends is more aid to strengthen its defense capability.

Regarding the situation in Chad, the minister said Sudan is assisting the Chadian Government in building its national unity. He added that Sudan expects a visit by Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei for the sake of stability and peace in fraternal Chad.

YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR TALKS 21 DEC

JN211518 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Dec (SUNA) -- Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, arrived in Khartoum at 1400 today on a 3-day official visit to Sudan for talks with ranking Sudanese officials. He was welcomed by Abel Alier, second vice president, and senior state officials.

TUNISIA

TUNISIAN-SPANISH COMMUNIQUE ON LEADERS' TALKS

LD212138 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Spanish-Tunisian joint communique issued in Tunis 21 December following visit by Spanish Prime Minister Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo]

[Text] At the invitation of Mohamed Mzali, prime minister of the Republic of Tunisia, Spanish Prime Minister Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo paid an official visit to Tunisia 18 through 21 December 1981. Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo was received by His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba. He also conducted talks with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, Planning and Finance Minister Mansour Moalla, National Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram and Agriculture Minister Lassad Ben Osman.

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Pedro Perez-Llorca and Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caides-Sebsi also exchanged views.

During their talks, the two prime ministers reviewed the international situation and discussed bilateral relations. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of sincere and warm friendship, which has always marked and characterized relations between the two countries.

Proceeding from the special ties between Spain and Tunisia, the two sides perceived a deep congruence in the trend of the two countries' foreign policy; these special ties and political congruence are bound to allow the intensification of cooperation between the two countries. The two prime ministers studied in depth bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the resolutions of the mixed commission which met in Tunis 4 through 6 June 1981, and at the outcome of its work. They also stressed the importance they attach to Tunisian-Spanish bilateral cooperation.

Following the reports presented by the Tunisian ministers of planning and finance, national economy and agriculture on the aims of the Tunisian sixth development plan, and after a deep study of the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries, the two prime ministers expressed their intention to give fresh impetus to this cooperation. In this connection, they decided that in the coming weeks a working session will be held at committee level in Madrid so as to embody this cooperation and to pinpoint the actions to be taken particularly in the economic, industrial, financial and agricultural fields, and also in fisheries.

During his stay in Tunisia, Calvo-Sotelo acquainted himself with the considerable progress which has been achieved by the Tunisian people on the road of development and democracy under the guidance of President Bourguiba. He also expressed thanks for the warm welcome accorded to him and the accompanying delegation and for the friendly atmosphere that marked his visit. He invited Mzali to pay an official visit to Spain. The invitation was accepted with pleasure -- its date will be fixed by agreement between the two sides.

Calvo-Sotelo Summarizes Visit

LD212100 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mzali made a statement to Spanish television this morning, in which he spoke about Tunisian-Spanish relations and the two countries cooperation prospects. The prime minister was at Tunis International Airport to bid farewell to Spanish Prime Minister Calvo-Sotelo who, referring to the results of his visit to Tunisia, said: We noted that Spain's entry into the EEC must not harm Tunisia's relations with the EEC. He added that with the Tunisian officials and in particular with President Bourguiba and Prime Minister Mzali, he studied in depth the impact on Tunisia of Spain's entry into the EEC and also international political matters related to the Middle East and Poland in particular. He said he also conducted talks with the ministers of national economy, planning, finance and agriculture about the possibilities of bilateral cooperation in agriculture, ship building, mechanical industries and chemical and electrical industries. He said in the coming weeks a Tunisian delegation will visit Spain to study these issues. He hoped that Prime Minister Mzali will be able to visit Spain before summer so as to review with him the outcome of the talks of their (?committees).

CHAD

FAN DENOUNCES GOUKOUNI ATTITUDE TOWARD OAU FORCE

AB211458 Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Dec (AFP) -- The rebel Chadian FAN of former Defence Minister Hissein Habre today denounced Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's attitude to the OAU and its inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad.

President Goukouni has said recently that he saw no use for the force as it was not taking an active part in his government's fight against the FAN in eastern Chad.

In a statement handed to AFP by FAN representative here Mohamed Djiber today Mr Habre's faction said it was not surprised by the irresponsible attitude of President Goukouni.

The president had never worked for the restoration of peace and was unwilling to accept the presence of a peacekeeping force in Chad. Instead he wants to have a contingent of mercenaries for massacre and destruction, the FAN said.

It called upon all those who had expressed willingness to support Mr Goukouni to reconsider their position for the sake of the Chadian people who had suffered a great deal.

A peaceful solution to the Chadian conflict could only be reached through negotiations in which all Chadian parties, without exception, would take part, the FAN said.

GABON

DECLARATION BY HEADS OF STATE AT UDEAC MEETING

AB211025 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Declaration of the heads of state at the end of the 17th Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa summit held in Libreville from 17 to 19 December 1981]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Republic of Gabon and current chairman of the council of heads of state of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC], the president of the People's Republic of Angola, the president of the Republic of Burundi represented by his ambassador, the president of the United Republic of Cameroon represented by the prime minister, the president of the CAR, the president of the People's Republic of Congo, the president of the Republic of Gabon, the president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, the president of the Republic of Rwanda, the president of the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, the president of the Republic of Chad and the president of the Republic of Zaire met in Libreville from 17 to 19 December 1981 and have made the following declaration:

We, the heads of state and government, recalling the declaration of the Monrovia agreement of guidelines for the achievement of national and collective self-sufficiency in the economic and social sectors for the establishment of a new international economic order; referring to the Lagos plan of action, especially to the measures aimed at achieving economic, social and cultural development for Africa and defining, among others, the terms on the creation of subregional structures and the developmemt of the already existing ones leading to the establishment of an African common market linked up with an African economic community; having decided to ensure through a common action the economic and social development of our countries with the view to ameliorating the standard of living and of employment of our peoples; convinced that the present forms of economic cooperaton in the subregion constitute decisive steps toward a more elaborate cooperation and determined to lay the foundation for a more viable subregional economy solemnly engage ourselves, on behalf of our governments and of our peoples, to do everything possible to establish an economic community of central African states. We are requesting our ministers in charge of development issues, the USEAC secretary general and the executive secretary of the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes to meet in Libreville in February 1982 to define, in collaboration with the OAU secretary general and with the executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the practical modalities for the establishment of this community, the organization of commission, the meeting of experts and work groups, the elaboration of work schedules, and also to study the community's constituent treaties.

After consulting the heads of state concerned, the president of the Republic of Gabon will, at the appropriate time, summon a summit conference for its adoption.

Issued in Libreville on 19 December 1981.

Support Statement for Angola

AB211116 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Statement of support for the People's Republic of Angola by participants of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa summit meeting held in Libreville from 17 to 19 December 1981]

[Text] The heads of state of central African states participating in the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] council of heads of state meeting in Libreville from 17 to 19 December 1981, who are preoccupied with the deliberate and repeated aggressions being carried out against Angola by the racist regime in South Africa, and who are convinced that these attacks and the illegal occupation of part of the Angolan territory constitute a challenge to the international community and dangerously compromise peace and security in this part of Africa, first of all, energetically condemn these acts of aggression perpetrated against the People's Republic of Angola and call for the immediate withdrawal of the racist South African troops. Secondly, they resolutely pledge their support for the struggles engaged in by the brotherly Angolan people against these attacks under the direction of their leader, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and the president of the People's Republic of Angola. Finally, they appeal to all African states and to the international community to mobilize this racist and inhuman regime under which the brotherly people of South Africa and Namibia have been dominated.

Issued in Libreville on 19 December 1981.

OAU's Kodjo Comments

AB191045 Paris AFP in French 0934 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Libreville, 19 Dec (AFP) -- The OAU is in favor of the creation of a great economic community in central Africa, Edem Kodjo, OAU secretary general said in Libreville (Gabon) today.

Kodjo, who is participating in the 17th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] as an observer, stressed during an interview with AFP that this initiative falls in line with the setting up of an African economic community, advocated by the OAU, in 2000.

The summit of the UDEAC, which includes four member states (Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Car) and is being held in Libreville from 17 to 21 December, groups nine heads of state and governments from central Africa and is aimed at studying ways and means of possibly enlarging this body. Chad already has made the official request for its reintegration while Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe have expressed their intention to join the union.

The UDEAC initiative, Kodjo reaffirmed, proves that the time has come to make further progress and to reduce in the near future the evil effects of the artificial and anachonistic borders inherited from the colonial era. In a world where relations between the rich and poor nations become more and more difficult and complex, Africa's survival depends greatly on solidarity among its states, he added, after explaining that the OAU will make every effort possible to promote the expansion of the UDEAC.

On the other hand, the OAU secretary general refused to talk about Chad. Soon after his arrival in Libreville, President Goukouni Queddei, who is also participating in the UDEAC summit meeting, reiterated his country's profound disagreement with the OAU on the role of the inter-African force in Chad.

For us, he declared, the agreement signed between the Chadian Government and the OAU on force to Chad is clear: It stipulates that this force should ensure the security and the integrity of Chad. But, in the field, it is passive and therefore of no use.

Since the beginning of the summit on Thursday, the Chadian head of state also has refused to receive journalists.

BONGO COMMENTS ON 'LIES' CONCERNING UNREST

AD200927 Paris AFP in French 1608 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Libreville, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Gabonese President Omar Bongo reaffirmed in Libreville yesterday that the multiparty system in Africa is synonymous with division and that the opposition in his country comes down to the existence of about ten embittered and discontented elements.

The Gabonese president, who was talking to three French journalists outside the summit of heads of state of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC) was refering to the lies published abroad, especially in France, on the political situation in Gabon and the unrest at the Univerisity of Libreville.

I know these embittered and discontented ones, the head of state stressed. They once were ambassadors or high functionaries, then they had trouble with Gabonese justice for embezzlement of public funds. They were formerly opposed to former President Leon Mba, he added.

The Gabonese president then cited the attempt to create a movement for national redress [Morena]. Gabon is very healthy, he said. Its recovery is economic and it has been so for 3 years now.

Referring to the existence of a blue book which questions his political and economic administration, Bongo affirmed: In fact, it is an accumulation, in 17 pages, of tracts calling for my resignation and that of my government. As for me, publishing a tract is an act of weakness. For, when I set up the one-party system in 1968, I also established dialogue.

The Gabonese president also expressed surprise that it was alleged that the tracts had been published in France. This is false, he said. The former rector of the University of Libreville, Jean-Pierre Nzoghe Nguema (who was dismissed and arrested at the beginning of December), was preparing to send them to France. They were accompanied by three letters addressed to Francois Mitterrand, the French president.

I did not come to power 14 years ago through a coup d'etat, Bongo stressed once more. I was democratically elected and there is no need for the French president to demand the departure of Bongo.

The Gabonese head of state described as a plot and political affair the unrest on the campus of the University of Libreville, which began at the beginning of December. But it is a plot which is not based on any uprising, popular or military, he said. He added that he did not know the basis of the boycott of classes at the university.

Speaking at the National Assembly on Friday, Leon Mebiame, Gabonese prime minister, recognized the existence of a certain dissatisfaction and the instigation of a latent unrest here and there, which he attributed to the dishonesty and abuse of rights by some functionaries. The prime minister also condemned the publishing of false information revealing particularly that the humanitarian organization, Amnesty International, had asked him as prime minister about the care given to the 800 people arrested in Libreville in November. Here is a bit of news which can take your breath away, he concluded.

MINISTER DISCLOSES OIL PRODUCTION FIGURES

AB171312 Paris AFP in French 0902 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 17 Dec (AFP) -- Gabon, which currently produces 7.5 million tons of oil per year (150,000 barrels per day), might increase production to the level of 10 million tons per year in the future, Etienne Guy Mouvagha-Tchioba, Gabonese vice premier and minister of mines and petroleum, told the magazine ARAB OIL AND GAS.

The Gabonese minister says that recent discoveries have doubled Gabon's known oil reserves but the government has not yet fixed the production target. He acknowledged that Gabon has had some difficulties in selling its oil at $35 per barrel. Since 1 November, the price of Gabonese crude oil has been reduced to $34 and Mouvagha-Tchioba feels it is still too soon to tell if this has been suficient to induce clients to increase their purchases.

On relations with foreign oil companies operating in Gabon, the minister revealed that the Gabonese Government hopes to increase its share in their capital form 25 percent to 35-41 percent. Negotiations have been initiated with Elf-Aquitaine, which produces the bulk of Gabonese oil, and Shell, and the minister hopes that an agreement will be reached by the end of 1982.

NIGERIA

PRESIDENT SHAGARI 16 DEC BUDGET ADDRESS

AB161306 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0925 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Address by Nigerian President Shehu Shagari to the National Assembly on the 1982 national budget on 16 December -- live]

[Text] Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker of the House of Representatives, distinguished senators, honorable members, ladies and gentlemen: I stand once again before you this session as has become the tradition to present to your consideration the Federal Government's budget for the year 1982. Before I proceed with this, however, I want to review briefly the performance of our economy in the year 1981.

Economic performance in 1981: As you all know, Nigeria's economy for many years has been heavily dependent on a single commodity, namely oil. Of recent, there has been a global oil glut which consequently has led to a decline in our national earning from that source. This is a regrettable trend which no nation and no individual can single -- handedly combat. Nigeria, as an active member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, is working hard and in concert with other members to reverse this unfortunate trend. Our balance of payments in the year 1981 is showing a deficit of almost 1.5 billion naira. This is due mainly to the adverse development in the world crude oil market. At the end of 1979, our external reserves stood at 3.3 billion naira. By the end of December 1980, this rose to 5.6 billion naira. However, by the end of September 1981, the external reserve position declined to 4.5 billion naira due to the impact of glut in the oil market and the increase in our average monthly import bills from 722 million naira in 1979 to 1.2 billion in 1981. By the end of the financial year 1981, our total foreign exchange disbursement is estimated at 14 billion naira; this is based on an average monthly rate of 1.206 billion naira. Clearly this cannot be allowed to continue for our economy cannot accomodate it. It has, therefore, been absolutely necessary to take the appropriate measures to contain the situation. The recent austerity meassures introduced by the Federal Government are designed to provide a check to the upward trend in our public expenditure.

These enumerated setbacks in our economy notwithstanding, our gross domestic product has shown a slight improvement over the level of the previous year. Increases in real output are being recorded in various sectors of the economy. For example, available indicators have shown an encouraging growth of 15 percent in the manufacturing sector. Furthermore, there are increases in the levels of public and private sector investments. There are, without doubt, expressions of confidence which investors have in the resilience of Nigeria's economy. This confidence has remained unshaken despite the prophecies of the local forecasters of gloom and doom who are ignorant of the difference between resilience and bouyancy. At this point, I am happy to inform you that from all indicationas, there is some improvement in the oil market, which will no doubt have a significant impact on the economy in the year to come. Our average daily oil production that sank as low as 0.7 million barrels per day during the month of August has now gone up to 1.6 million barrels per day during the month of November. [applause]

Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker, we now move to 1982. With effect from 1 January, new regulations aimed at reducing the outflow of foreign exchange will come into force. The present rate of 30 percent allowable on offshore costs for consultancy services will be reduced to 20 percent. However, existing regulations in respect of royalties, repatriation of proceeds from the sale of shares, director's fees, home remittances, technical service and management fees will remain unchanged. In continuation of the temporary austerity arrangement, it has been decided that with immediate effect, the basic travel allowance will be reduced from 1,000 naira to 800 naira per adult. There will be no allowance for children under the age of 16 years and the ceiling of 6,000 allowed to companies for business trips is cut down to 3,000 naira per annum. [applause]

With regards to the monetary and banking policy of this administration, the existing ceiling on the rate of expansion of commercial and merchant bank loans and advances will continue in 1982. Accordingly, banks will be allowed to expand their aggregate loans and advances by not more than 30 percent while those with loans and advances not exceeding 100 million may expand their aggregate produce up to 40 percent. Sectoral allocation of credits will be slightly adjusted to accomodate the pressure for credit demands from the construction sector. It appears that the present allocation to the export sector is on the high side in view of the fact that the agricultural export sector is already being financed by the Central Bank of Nigeria. The reserved liquidity ratio of the commercial system is currently running at about 43 percent as against the statutory minimum of 25 percent. While the observed the current cash ratio has reached 10.8 percent as against the required minimum ratio of between 2 and 5 percent for the different categories of banks.

The indication, therefore, is that the banks have ample reserves which place them in a position to meet the expected rate of credit expansion. Accordingly, the existing liquidity and cash ratios are to be maintained in 1982. Similarly the existing restrictive provisions requiring commercial banks to maintain a ratio of 1 to 10 between capital funds and total loans and advances will be modified to a ratio of 1 to 12. Provisions for bad and doubtful loans will be deducted from total loans and advances before the ratio is determined. The existing policy on bank loans to indigenous borrowers and bank loans to rural areas will be maintained. The interest rate structure will be slightly adjusted upward and penalties for defaults will remain the same. Similarly, the present system of determining the exchange rate of the naira by the use of import rated basket of currencies will continue. With the exception of the current dividend guidelines which permit companies to distribute a maximum of 60 percent of profit after tax, I am happy to note that it has been worked satisfactorily. In the interest of continuity and efficiency, government has decided that the current dividend guidelines will be maintained.

This administration has since its inception in October 1979 pursued with vigor a policy of even distribution of income among individuals and social economic groups. The measures we have taken on wages, rentals, fringe benefits, dividends and prices have produced satisfactory results. In the area of wages in particular, our achievements constitute a historic landmark. From a wage of 70 naira per month in 1979, the least paid worker has now moved to an all-time high of 125 naira per month. [applause] This has resulted in narrowing the gap in wage income between the lowest and the highest paid employees in the public sector. In addition, this administration has extended fringe benefits such as housing and transportation allowances to the low income workers who, hitherto, were excluded from such benefits.

Our medium term income policy guideline on salaries and wages which promised some maximum increases of 15 percent and 10 percent on salaries and wages of low and high income groups respectively from 1980 to 1982 will expire in December 1982. Reports show that most establishments in the private sector have negotiated and implemented salary adjustments within the permissible limit. Those who have not done so will be allowed to implement the provisions during 1982. I hope that increase in income will be matched by corresponding increase in productivity. I, therefore, urge all categories of workers to respond to this gesture of the Federal Government through greater dedication to work.

It has been observed that many establishments no longer include actual prices in the advertisement of goods and services that they put on sale. Government is convinced that advertisement of prices is necessary to guide all categories of consumers. Therefore, the directive on price advertisement will now be enforced under the productivity prices and incomes act which provides penalty for any breach of any part of the income policy guideline. [applause] Government has reviewed the guidelines on prices and found the existing guidelines helpful in the control of inflation. We have discovered that the time allowed for consultations between industry and government regarding price adjustments has been inadequate. Henceforth, notification for price adjustments not exceeding 5 percent must be given 40 days ahead of implementation while notifications for the price increases of more than 5 percent must be given not less than 10 weeks before implementation. Government, on its part, will continue to ensure that increases in income are not eroded by increased inflation.

Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker, in my 1980 budget proposals I indicated my intention to submit before you a bill to authorize the president to adjust tariffs and to introduce measures to give concessions to local manufactures on a sliding scale.

The authority which I seek to be able to adjust tariffs within a good margin will be tabled before this assembly as part of the 1982 finance bill. By and large, this bill will contain proposals for slight tariff changes which I believe this august assembly will readily accede to. This approach recognizes the fact that frequent changes in tariff measures often act as disincentives to investment. However, it is proposed to grant special concessions to investment in agriculture and agro-allied industries. These enterprises will now enjoy generous tax incentives similar to those granted to pioneer industries. Tax incentives will also be given to enterpreneurs who invest in infrastructures such as access roads, bore holes and electric generators with a view to promoting rural development. [applause] Following a representation from manufacturers, this administration had exempted raw materials, spare parts and books from pre-shipment inspection. This was done in order to help our industries procure their raw materials and spare parts without undue delay. Regrettably, however, it is observed that this concession to our manufacturers has been abused. It has become an avenue for over-invoicing and smuggling. Government cannot turn a blind eye to this unwholesome situation. I therefore propose to return raw materials spare parts, books and frozen fish within the ambit of pre-shipment inspection. [applause]

I am convinced that with the streamlining of procedures for processing (?forms) already introduced by the Central Bank and the proposed admission of another company to supplement the one currently handling pre-shipment inspection, as contained in a bill now before you, this measure will not lead to delays that will have adverse effects on our industries. [applause and hooting]

I would like to say a few words at this point about smuggling and to inform you of the steps we have so far taken to check this evil. Many of our industries are suffering because they have found it difficult to compete with smuggled goods which abound in our market.

Going hand in hand with smuggling is the pernicious problem of dumping of goods and obsolete (?processing) machinery in our country. The problems posed by these twin evils have been with this country for many years. This administration is determined to eliminate them. To this end, the Federal Government has entered into dialogue with the governments of our neighboring countries in an effort to secure their cooperation. Already, we have taken steps to re-equip officers and men of the Department of Customs and Excise. Given proper guidance and leadership, I believe our men in the customs can face the challenge from smugglers and dumpers. I view the situation seriously and no stone will be left unturned in this battle to rid our country of these evils.

To this end, necessary directives have been issued for overhauling the entire hierarchy of the Department of Customs and Excise. [applause] Furthermore, a special crack squad will be set up to complement the efforts of that department. [applause] As we continue in our efforts to exterminate smuggling and dumping, we demand full cooperation of everyone, in particular members of the various Chambers of Commerce and the (?Merchants) Association of Nigeria. They must be ready to supplement these efforts through self-control and effective surveillance.

Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker: In the course of the current financial year, we have made a careful study of our tax laws. It has been found that by and large, the structure of our tax system has been patterned after those of the industrialized countries. In contrast, our rate of voluntary compliance in terms of tax payment is lower than that of developed countries. It has also been observed that despite government's efforts in granting generous capital allowances and other concessions such as approved [word indistinct] to stimulate growth of businesses, some companies that take advantage of these incentives are also known to indulge in tax evasion and avoidance. Furthermore, the ordinary consumer has not been receiving the benefit of the reduced rate of duties in the prices of manufactured products. [applause] To minimize the effect of these malpractices, this administration intends to propose amendments to the existing tax law to enable the Federal Board of Inland Revenue to have power to levy a minimum tax of 2 percent on turnover or at the normal rate of 45 percent of profit, whichever is higher. [applause]

The problem of tax exemption has already engaged the attention of this administration. For instance, it has been observed that tax exemption granted by government to some foreign companies has not resulted in the desired reduction in the cost of the project. In future, therefore, no exemptions from tax other than those in the existing tax laws will be allowed. Regarding the practice of exempting interest on loans to agriculture and loans from the World Bank or similar institutions would be liable to tax.

In 1982, it is projected that total revenue to be collected by the Federal Government will be 11.630 billion naira. In accordance with section 149/1 of the Constitution, a total of 10.827 billion will be transferred to the federation account. Based on the proposed revenue allocation formula, the Federal Government will receive the sum of 5.955 billion naira. The state governments will have 3.789 billion naira and 1.083 billion will go to the local governments. [applause]

The new revenue allocation bill must be seen as a landmark in the history of revenue sharing in this country. [applause] By embodying the principle of derivation and direct compensation to the mineral-producing localities for environmental disfiguration and massive inconveniencies, we have proved to the world that we in Nigeria can truly be our brothers' keepers. [applause] For me personally, it will be a fulfillment of a long-standing humane objective and for all Nigerians it will certainly be a victory for fair play and social justice. [applause]

Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker, distinguished and honorable members: In the 1982 recurrent estimate draft, the recurrent expenditure amounts to 3.525 billion naira. It is classified under personnel cost and overhead cost. You will recall that some time ago, I established two presidential commissions to look into the salaries and conditions of service of the university staff and parastatals. Both record financial implications which are not reflected in the appropriation bill now before you. At a later stage, your approval will be duly sought by way of a supplementary appropriation bill.

With regard to capital expenditure, the total estimate for the Federal Government is 7.420 billion naira. To finance this, the Federal Goernment will be expected to generate 3.232 billion as recurrent budget surplus and will raise 2.047 billion from external loans and 500 million as internal loan. In 1982, the total capital received from the Federal Government will be 5.779 billion naira, leaving as a resource gap of 1.641 billion naira. This amount, which is equivalent to 30 percent of our estimated capital expenditure, will be reserved pending improvement in our revenue position. It is important to know that in 1982, over 70 percent of the total capital allocation of 7.420 billion naira will be channeled to those sectors on which this administration places high priority. As you know, on the top of this list of priorities is agriculture. [applause]

In this field, we have introduced the green revolution program which today, in this country, has become almost a household word. We have multiplied assistance to farmers in the form of agricultural inputs such as tractors and implements, fertilizers and improved seeds, rice threshers and irrigation pumps. We have launched a special nationwide program in 12 states of the federation aimed at boosting rice production. We have given a similar boost in fish farming, construction of fishing terminals and acceleration of livestock and forestry projects. In 1982, we intend to sustain this momentum. The sum of 0.999 billion naira has been allocated to the agricultural sector including the development of water resources. This figure represents about 13.5 percent of the capital budget.

Now from food, we move to shelter or housing. In 1980, we embarked on the construction of 40,000 housing units throughout the federation. The program for 1982 envisages a total capital expenditure of 0.175 billion naira and the construction of 20,000 units. These units will be two and three bedrooms as opposed to one-bedroom units which formed the bulk of [words indistinct]. Once again, I ask for the cooperation of the state governments so that the bottlenecks and frictions which led to some delay in implementing this important program will be removed.

In the area of education, we remain committed to qualitative education at each and every level. For pupils in primary and secondary schools and students in higher institutions of learning to have qualitative education, there must be a pool of trained and fully qualified teachers. In this regard, we have upgraded seven colleges of education to degree-awarding status. [applause] In addition, six new technical colleges will be started. With regard to the conditions of service of teachers in technical institutions and advanced teachers' colleges, I have already given directives for the setting up of a commission to examine these issues. A sum of 17.5 million naira has been earmarked for bursary awards for technical students while 22.5 million naira will be spent on postgraduate scholarships. [applause] A sum of 466 million naira is provided for recurrent grants and subventions to universities and other institutions of higher learning. Also, 271.6 million naira is earmarked for the expansion and consolidation of the capital projects of the existing universities and for the establishment of new federal universities of technology.

You may wish to know that out of the five new universities of technology already established, three have offered admission to students for this session. If I may say it here, the issue of an open university is still very much in my mind in spite of the initial setback it has suffered. I am convinced that such a university can offer immense opportunities to many of our citizens who may not have direct access to the traditional type of university education. I might remind you that there are many highly placed Nigerians in all walks of life who have received university education by studying at home. In many developed countries, this system of education is operated and has been found to be extremely beneficial.

Let me now turn to health, a very important sector to which great attention is similarly paid. This administration is committed to the provision of efficient and effective preventive and curative health services throughout the country. During the past few years, the teaching hospitals have had tremendous boost in terms of number, equipment and manpower availability. In 1980 alone, 1,000 medical and dental officers qualified from these institutions while the number of first year clinical students rose to 1,200. These impressive figures will be improved upon by extending existing facilities. On this score, the sum of 0.131 billion naira has been allocated to the health subsector in the 1982 financial year.

The need to industrialize our society is not only glaring but also pressing. Consequently, the sum of 2.633 billion naira has been allocated to the industrial sector. This sum includes 0.963 billion for NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Company], 0.468 billion for manufacturing and 1.380 billion for iron and steel. Furthermore, our basic industries which produce intermediate and capital goods are now geared toward the important role they are designed to play in our drive toward greater economic development. By mid 1982, the machine tools industry, for example, will go into production. I am pleased to inform this august assembly that the Alaja steel plant, which will be officially commissioned in January 1982, has in fact already gone into production. [applause] A start has also been made in 1982 or will also be made in 1982 in other areas of metallurgical development including a flat steel products plant, an aluminum smelter, a steel alloy plant and a foundry. This constitutes essential prerequisites for a march toward a truly industrialized society. It is my fervent hope that the production of steel in Nigeria will particularly help the motor industry. You are no doubt aware that approval has already been given for the establishment of five light vehicle assembly plants in various locations in the country. I expect that when our steel program is completed, these assembly facilities will be in a position to shift to full-scale manufacturing.

An expanding economy such as our own requires a reliable transportation system for its sustenance. The need for national cohesion coupled with the vastness of our lands make it imperative on us to pay adequate attention to the development and improvement of our road, rail, water and air transportation. I begin with road. Projects are being undertaken to link the various parts of the country with the federal capital territory. In this regard, there are five north-south arteries that deserve special mention, namely, Badagri to Sokoto; Lagos to Kano; Warri-Okene-Abuja to Kaduna; Port Harcourt-Enugu-Jos and the Calabar-Ikom-Yola-Maiduguri expresses. [applause] I alsc wish to mention the east-west arteries which are under construction. These are: (Itumore) to Ado; Ado-Ekiti to (Bilo); Mokwa-Bida-Keffi-Abuja; Efremu-Patiri-(Ekayan). [applause] In 1982, the sum of 473.7 million naira is provided for these road projects.

I am sure you are all aware of the development plans to our Nigerian railways. We intend to imbark on modernizing our railway network so as to achieve greater speed and comfort. For extending this project, a provision of 160 million naira has been made for 1982. This is in addition to provisions made for the improvement and maintenance of the existing line.

On water transportation and port development, satisfactory progress is recorded. A provision of 95.5 million naira has been made.

On air transportation, our effort is continuing through the development of new airports and improving the facilities in the existing ones. An allocation of 78 million naira is made. As you know, a number of aircraft for the Nigeria Airways are on order so as to ease problems experienced by air travelers.

I now want to say a word or two on Abuja, the federal capital territory. [applause] A sum of 0.271 billion has been allocated. I want to assure you that every effort is being made to accelerate the building of the new capital for the federation to which we are all looking forward very eagerly. Right now, the following important projects are under construction: the lower Usman dam and the Jagi dam, international airports, airport expressways, Outer Northern Expressway and Ringroad 1 North, power supply to areas one and two of the accelerated districts, the construction of 5,443 housing units, the construction of five-star hotels and presidential guest house. Negotiations are going on for the design and construction of the National Assembly complex. I am pleased to inform you that an administrative nucleus has been set up for the federal capital territory. Seven developments areas have been established and an administrator has been appointed recently. Schools and health and other social services have also been established.

With regard to the defense and security of this nation, I want to reiterate that our determination to build a mobile and virile military force will continue. Already, the reorganization exercise of the Nigerian Army has virtually been completed. Similar reorganization exercises in respect of the Nigerian Air Force and the Nigerian Navy will be completed next year. Our efforts to provide accomodation will be intensified. Infrastructural facilities will be provided to those army barracks already completed in 67 locations.

In the course of the 1982 fiscal year, work will begin on a new forward naval base in Jamestown for which 10.5 million naira has been allocated. [applause] Equal attention will be paid to equipping our armed forces. A general purpose frigate, five patrol boats, short-range aircraft, long-range and transport planes, artillery equipment, military hardware, armament and vehicles will be purchased in 1982. In our desire to reactivate the defense industries corporation, provision has been made in the estimates to facilitate the production of military hardware locally. Enormous attention will be paid by this administration to the Nigeria police force which is the backbone of the maintenance of law and order in our society. Allocated to them for the year 1982 is the sum of 387 million naira which will be spent on personnel and overhead costs. [applause] For capital projects, 88.8 million has been earmarked. We shall do everything possible to ensure the development of the police force in terms of men, equipment, training and accomodation.

So far, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have spoken on the state and performance of our economy during the year 1981. I have also highlighted the main features of the 1982 budget proposals. There are, however, three other important areas which I must touch upon in the course of this address. One of them is the disturbing trend in our industrial relations with particular reference to industrial actions and strikes. During the year, this nation has had to contend with strikes by resident medical doctors, Central Bank workers, the Nigerian Labor Congress and, lately, the academic staff union of the universities. Many of the issues leading to the strikes have been satisfactorily resolved while the few that are outstanding are in the process of negotiation.

It is indeed sad to note that many available man hours have been lost to the nation as a result of these strikes. For a developing country such as our own which is anxious to move forward, such a trend is distressing, to say the least. These strikes deliberately ignored the laid-down procedure and laws for the settlement of labor disputes. Let me remind all union leaders that it is in their own interest and in the interest of those they represent to obey the law. [applause]

The second matter is in connection with the nullification of the 1981 revenue allocation act by the Supreme Court. As a result of that ruling, there was no alternative but to fall back on the 1978-79 revenue allocation system consistent with section 272 of the Constitution for the purpose of disbursing funds to states and local governments. From records now available, all the states of the federation have received substantial overpayments. I do know that if I were to insist on refunds, all the states of the federation will be placed in great financial jeopardy. As the president of the country, I shall never take comfort in such a course of action. [applause] So, as a mark of concern and as a matter of principle, I intend to seek your approval to write off these overpayments. [shouts of approval] So, I intend therefore at a later date to bring a bill to the National Assembly providing for grants to the states to the extent of the overpayments made to them during the year 1981. [shouts of approval]

The final issue relates to our role and image in the international system. Since the inception of this administration, we played a full and active role in all international organizations of which Nigeria is a member. We have been guided at all times by the interest and welfare of our country as well as our fundamental commitment to the total liberation of the African Continent from colonialism, racism, imperialism and neocolonialism. [applause] Our commitment also to the unity of the African nations politically, economically and culturally is always manifest in our actions and our pronouncements. In all the international forums that we attended carrying the flag of this great nation, we enhanced the image of this great country. In consonance with the other Third World nations, we sought the reform of the international economic order. It was in this context that I accepted an invitation to participate in the North-South dialogue of 22 heads of state and government in Cancun in Mexico. In fact, I had the privilege as a spokesman for the African countries to address that summit on agricultural development in Africa. Again at the last Commonwealth heads of government conference in Melbourne, Nigeria was accorded the singular honor of leading the discussions on southern Africa, including Namibia. [applause] It is gratifying to note that our contributions at that conference brought about the happy conclusion that Namibia should be independent by 1982. [applause] As you know also, the leaders of the frontline states chose our capital as the venue for their last meeting in which were discussed matters that were very crucial to their destinies.

Coming nearer home, I am sure you do appreciate our efforts in ensuring the security of our borders and the preservation of our territorial integrity. We have also played our part in trying to settle disputes between African nations as well as helping to resolve their internal problems, especially with regard to our neighbors. Right now, our troops are in the Republic of Chad as part of the OAU's peacekeeping force under the command of a Nigerian general. [applause] Reports so far confirm the usefulness and effectiveness of the peacekeeping force and we do hope that their presence will lead to a permanent peace in that war-torn country.

Finally, Mr President of the Senate, Mr Speaker, distinguished and honorable members of the National Assembly: I believe this is an opportune moment for us, the executive and the legislature, to reflect (?at half time) as to whether we have so far performed well enough in accordance with our mandate.

We should realize that as a team, we must play according to the rules of the game. If we are to succeed, we must work together. Our task is complementary and one arm of the government cannot function properly without the cooperation of the other. The achievements of the executive must be judged against the background of the cooperation it received from the legislature and vice versa. I am happy to observe a growing awareness between us on the need for this cooperation which augurs well for the future not only of the government of which you are a part, but also of the nation which quite rightly expects much from us. I am confident that together we shall succeed. I thank you all.

KANO STATE POLICE WARN POLITICAL PARTIES

AB181115 Lagos NAN in English 1104 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Kano, 18 Dec (NAN) -- The Kano State police command on Wednesday warned supporters of rival political parties against causing trouble in the state. In a statement, the public relations officer of the command, B.C. Nwadikwah, said that the police had received information that the two factions of the PRP [People's Redemption Party] in the state were planning attacks and counterattacks against each other. The police said that the planned attacks were precipitated by recent clashes between the two factions at the end of the annual convention of Malam Aminu Kanos faction of the party last Sunday. The police said that they would deal with offenders.

PRP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE AFTER KANO CONVENTION

AB171103 Lagos NAN in English 1050 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Kano, 17 Dec (NAN) -- The Peoples' Redemption Party (PRP) has called on President Shehu Shagari to grant full amnesty to Odumegwu Ojukwu. In a communique issued at the end of its convention in Kano on Tuesday, the PRP mandated its National Directorate to work toward making a popular national front possible. The party advocated a change in the country's economic planning in which the welfare of the poor would be promoted over those of elite groups and their foreign partners. The party reaffirmed the decision taken at its convention in Maiduguri last year expelling Governor Abubakar Rimi of Kano State, the former governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Balarabe Muse, and a number of legislators. Dr Ikem Okeke was elected the deputy national president, and Alhaji Hassan Yusuf the vice president. Chris Okoro and Malam Sule Buba were elected assistant publicity secretaries.

PAPERS ON CAMEROON BORDER ISSUE, PRESS FREEDOM

AB171231 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY TIMES expresses concern at the withdrawal of Nigerian troops from the Nigeria-Cameroon border. The paper recalls the alarm sounded by Governor Clement Isong of the Cross River State over renewed molestation of Nigerian fishermen by the Cameroonian police and says that to leave the matter as it is now will not be in the interest of the country's security. The TIMES therefore advises that the soldiers be left at the border because their presence will discourage the intruders from any further harrassment of Nigerian fishermen.

Under the caption "The Legislature Versus the Media," the NIGERIAN STATESMAN says that if the electoral bill to monitor the press is passed, the press in Nigeria will be compelled by government restriction to present distorted information. The paper adds that this could prevent the citizens from making correct decisions during elections. It also points out that it would render impotent newspapers established for the sole purpose of propagating the program of their sponsors. Moreover, declares the STATESMAN, it will amount to a serious breach of the Constitution if the press freedom is curtailed.

ANGOLA

COMMUNIQUE ON CLASHES WITH RSA, USE OF GAS

AB211356 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1238 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 21 Dec (ANGOP) -- According to an official statement, 9 Angolan soldiers and 32 civilians were killed and 33 civilians and soldiers were wounded, while 5 South African soldiers were killed and 1 wounded in clashes between the Angolan Army and South African troops from 1 November to 5 December.

In a communique published in Luanda on Sunday, the Angolan Defense Ministry says the South African invaders are still occupying Ngiva. Nevertheless, it adds, Angolan troops are putting up strong resistance against the enemy.

Because of this resistance, South Africa has not hesitated to use gas, prohibited by international conventions, the communique adds. The said gas already has caused the death of at least one Angolan soldier and has paralyzed about a dozen more.

The Defense Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola further disclosed that during the period in question, the South Africans destroyed 9 vehicles, 5 combat trucks and 4 cannons. On the other hand, the Angolan Army shot down 1 Impala plane and 1 Puma helicopter.

During the same period, South Africa continued its air and ground reconnaissance, bombing and armed attack against Angolan territory and the disembarkation and concentration of troops and arms.

According to the communique from the Defense Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola, Angolan troops already have recaptured, on 2 and 3 December, the towns of Humbe, Peu-Peu, Mongua and Ngiva. However, a large-scale offensive by the racist troops who made massive use of ground forces, aircraft and toxic gases compelled the Angolan forces to abandon the above-mentioned area.

To conclude its communique, the Angolan Defense Ministry warned that South Africa's failure to withdraw its troops from our country represents a threat to peace in southern Africa.

The communique reiterates once again the view that the present South African aggression against Angola is aimed at the establishment of a buffer state in the south of the country to be handed over to UNITA, thus Balkanizing the Angolan territory and excluding SWAPO from the process of the independence of Namibia.

ANGOP CITES ANC OFFICIAL ON MILITARY OPEATIONS

AB211223 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1533 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 18 Dec (ANGOP) -- Mangalo, representative of South Africa's ANC in the Angolan capital, said various military operations were launched in the past few days by "Umkonte We Sizwe," armed faction of the ANC, against economic and military installations of the racist Pretoria regime.

The recent attacks by the patriotic South African forces against the oppressive racist regime coincide with the 20th anniversary of the "Umkonte We Sizwe" which was celebrated on 16 December.

The ANC representative said the armed attacks carried out by the organization include the daring operation that destroyed the powerplant of the city of Pretoria on 14 December, which caused several factories for strategic military products to come to a standstill.

[Words indistinct] near Johannesburg and the South African province of Natal.

Since its inception, the "Umkonte We Sizwe" has carried out a series of military operations against the apartheid regime. They were directed mainly against important economic installations, police stations and government and military establishments.

The ANC representative stressed that the South African patriotic forces are actively engaged in the mobilization of the popular masses against the reactionary regime and underscored the support given to his people's struggle by progressive forces all over the world.

Meanwhile in New York, the ANC observer to the United Nations, J. Makatini, expressed his profound gratitude to the international community for its constant support to the South African people's struggle, while adding that the successes scored by the liberation movements convincingly prove that freedom-loving peoples will never accept oppression, arbitrariness or the colonial or racial yoke.

These statements were made recently during a solemn ceremony organized recently by the African group at the United Nations which paid a tribute to the struggle of the South African people on the occasion of the anniversary of "Umkonte We Sizwe" and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the ANC, which will be commemorated on 8 January.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL, MUGABE ADDRESS 20 DEC MAPUTO RALLY

EA211548 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpts] The president of ZANU-PF and prime minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, attended a mass rally at (Machavene) ward in Maputo today.

Also present was the president of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique [PRM], Samora Moises Machel.

[Begin Machel recording] We are here with our brother and our comrade in struggle, comrades in suffering and our comrades in victory. We have here our comrade who is the symbol of resistance of the people of Zimbabwe. We have here the symbol of the immense strength of the intelligence of the people of Zimbabwe. We have here the great mobilizer and the great organizer of the people of Zimbabwe. We have here the servant of the interests of the people of Zimbabwe. We have here the symbol of heroism of the people of Zimbabwe and the symbol of the courage of Zimbabwean man.

When Ian Smith tried to change the color of colonialism and tried to change the illegal nature of his government by recruiting some Zimbabwean traitors, Comrade Mugabe understood that the patriots had to carry on their struggle. He understood that it was the same face of colonialism and that the new people in the government constituted the same colonialist enemy. You know that Ian Smith recruited Muzorewa and Ndabaningi Sithole. He held elections in Zimbabwe to fool the people of Zimbabwe. Comrade Mugabe said: We will fight on even if the enemy changes his face. He fought British colonialism. He fought the illegal Rhodesian regime and the Rhodesian rebellion. He fought Muzorewa, Smith and Sithole. When we put them together, we see that they constitute one single enemy. They are the old enemy, British colonialism. They were agents. Here in Mozambique we also had Simango; we had Kavandame; we had Joana Simeao. It is true, isn't it? They were agents of Marcelo Caetano and agents of Salazar. They were thriving on the crumbs from the colonial banquet. They ate in the kitchen and not in the house. They ate in the backyard and the kitchen where they were licking the plates from the colonial banquet. This was what Muzorewa was doing. Worse still, Muzorewa was using his tongue and not his hands.

The Zimbabwean struggle went on. It left people by the roadside. It left orphans, widows, parents without children and women who had lost their husbands. All this was done to attain independence because independence is priceless.

The struggle was waged to achieve victory, freedom and equality among men, to establish justice and to be able to undertake the more difficult work, national reconstruction.

I don't want to waste time. I have brought your son here. He will speak to you. He brings with him a high-ranking delegation. They are no longer men without a country. They are citizens of a free fatherland, a free land. [end recording]

[Begin Mugabe recording, in English with superimposed Portuguese translation] Comrade President Samora Machel, comrade members of the Central Committee of Frelimo, comrade members of the party's committee of the city of Maputo, comrades and friends: The event you have sponsored to receive me and my delegation completely overwhelms me. It is overwhelming because of the spirit and warmth with which you have received me and my delegation. It is overwhelming because of the spirit of friendship and brotherhood, because of the spirit of unity and solidarity which you have shown.

I will telling President Samora Machel yesterday that I had gone on a mission. The people of Mozambique, in agreement with the people of Zimbabwe, sent me off on a mission to ensure that the defeated enemy would not raise his head again, that is to say, his head should be crushed and crushed (?again). You gave me the people's sword because only through that sword could we crush the enemy completely.

And so, now I am here to tell you all about it, although you know that already because you have celebrated the occasion. But because you have given me a mission, I must perform my task in reporting to you at this meeting. I accordingly report to you that we won the elections, that we defeated Ian Smith, we defeated Muzorewa, we defeated South Africa, we defeated the British themselves.

That victory would not have been possible without the victory here in Mozambique. If the people of Mozambique had not fought and defeated the Portuguese colonial enemy we would not have been able to defeat the British colonial enemy. But, because the enemy was defeated here by you, we were able to use the soil of Mozambique, the bush of Mozambique, the mountains of Mozambique, to field our forces to defeat the enemy in Zimbabwe.

But, although the enemy had been defeated here in Mozambique, he was not very far away. He was still next door in Zimbabwe. It was necessary therefore that the enemy be driven far away. And, because of that joint effort, we managed to defeat the enemy in Zimbabwe. But the enemy has run to South Africa and he has run to Namibia and we are yet to defeat him again in South Africa and Namibia. Unless the enemy is defeated in those two countries, we will always have him destabilizing our territory. He will organize all kinds of gangster groups, the Andreas [founder of resistance movement in Mozambique], the Savimbia, the Mushala gang.

Muzorewa also has his gang in South Africa. And these gangs will be infiltrated into our countries to try and reverse the process of independence which we are establishing in our countries.

The enemy now resorts to the tactic of using the rejects in our society, the misfits, and these he trains to be his agents of [word indistinct] of (?negating) our independence. That is why we must be vigilant all the time, because the rejects and the misfits, when they come back, will try to live among us. They will try to get food from us. They will try to get water from us. They will try to get shelter from us and we must be very united.

But, above all, we must remain united, united within our (?party and our own) vanguard organizations.

The next message I bring you is that now that Zimbabwe is free and independent, everyone in Mozambique, not just President Samora Machel, everyone including fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, little children, you have a second home in Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe is now your home. The enemy is no longer there. Only your brothers and sisters are there and they rule the country. And Zimbabwe is not far. And so, we expect there will be Mozambicans coming to Zimbabwe and Zimbabweans coming to visit Mozambique. That is the best way of (?reestablishing) our unity, friendship and solidarity.

I thank you for the honor conferred on me when you made me an honorary citizen of Mozambique. When I go home, I will tell the people who sent me that I have been given this honor. And the message is that through this honor Zimbabweans are Mozambicans. And they will say, I am sure, that I should send back the message to you that you, Mozambicans, are also Zimbabweans.

Let us remain one. As yesterday we were united, today and tomorrow we must stay united. As yesterday the enemy of Zimbabwe was the enemy of Mozambique, today and tomorrow the enemy of Mozambique will also be the enemy of Zimbabwe and the enemy of Zimbabwe continues to be the enemy of Mozambique.

Let our struggle remain one because we have a common culture. We have common boundaries. We have a common history and we will continue to have a common destiny. [end recording]

Visit Beira Port

EA211544 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe today toured Beira Port with President Samora Machel. He also attended a meeting there, at which the director of Beira Port briefed him on the rail-harbor complex.

The Zimbabwean prime minister saw various aspects of the rail-port complex, particularly the fishing harbor, commercial harbor and the rice terminal. At Beira rail (?station), workers who took part in the reconstruction of the Pungue bridge greeted the Zimbabwean leader.

President Samora Machel said: "The enemies sabotaged the bridge mainly to continue to keep Zimbabwe as their backyard. Now that you have reconstructed it, you will have to step up your vigilance to stop them from coming to destroy it again. We must reestablish greater vigilance in all sectors, particularly on the railroad, bridges and roads. These are Mozambique's access to Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, Zaire, Malawi and other countries."

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE COMMENTS ON BOMB BLAST AT ZANU-PF OFFICES

CA211204 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, says the objective of the enemy responsible for yesterday's bomb blast was to destroy his party, ZANU-PF, thereby weakening the government. Comrade Mugabe was speaking at a news conference at Salisbury airport this morning before his departure for a 5-day visit to Mozambique. Comrade Mugabe said the enemy is misguided in thinking that by destroying him or other leaders of the party they will have destroyed ZANU-PF. He added that ZANU-PF is not Mugabe but the people of Zimbabwe as a whole. Comrade Mugabe also said the people of Zimbabwe will continue to struggle for the consolidation of independence and peace under their revolutionary vanguard, ZANU-PF.

He also said if the intention of the enemy was to sow seeds of disunity among Zimbabweans this will achieve an opposite effect. Comrade Mugabe, who is being accompanied by several government ministers, was seen off at the airport by government officials, members of the diplomatic corps and senior army officers.

Earlier this morning Comrade Mugabe visited the victims of yesterday's bomb blast at the ZANU-PF offices who are now being detained at the Parirenyatwa hospital. Comrade Mugabe expressed his deepest sympathy to the injured and wished them a quick recovery. Eleven people are being detained at the hospital. The prime minister told the patients that yesterday's bomb incident is a clear indication that we will still have enemies within our midst. He added that these enemies are enemies of peace. Comrade Mugabe also went on to the scene of the bomb blast where he spoke to some of the shopowners whose property was destroyed.

Newspaper Report

CA211400 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] A report in today's issue of the Sunday MAIL newspaper says the attack on the ZANU-PF headquarters on Friday is believed to have been aimed at wiping out the core of Zimbabwe's political leadership. The report says that the bomb was set to go off at a time when the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, and several Cabinet ministers normally hold a top level meeting in the building. The bomb went off in the conference room where regular meetings of the top hierarchy of ZANU-PF are held twice a month. The prime minister said if this cowardly act was aimed at sowing seeds of disunity among the peace-loving people of Zimbabwe, it will have the opposite effect.

BRIEFS

PARAMILITARY TRAINING -- Paramilitary training is to be made compulsory to all youths attending courses at youth centers to be established throughout the country. This was announced today by the deputy minister of youth, sport and recreation, Comrade George Rutanhire, when he addressed trainees attending an induction course at a Salisbury hotel. Comrade Rutanhire told the young trainees that (?since they) are the custodians of the country's sovereignty, especially in the face of the racist South African threat, they have to be equipped with military skills. The deputy minister added that 62 youth centers will be established throughout the country, where all unemployed youths and school leavers will be taught various skills. He said that the exercise is being undertaken for the following reasons: to fight unemployment, to promote self-sufficiency and to enable the youth to participate fully in the national development. The deputy minister also said that youths will remain on the frontline in national development just as they did during the war. [Text] [Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Dec 81 CA]